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No. 2154.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1869.

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Stamped Edition, 4d.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—Prof. WILLIAMSON'S COURSE OF LECTURES ON ORGANIC CHEMISTRY will commence on THURSDAY, February 11. The Course will occupy about six weeks, the Class Meetings every day of the week, except Saturday, from 11 till 12.45. Fee, 2s. 2d. JOHN ROBSON, B.A. Secretary to the Council.

February 3, 1869.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—TUESDAY EVENING LECTURES.—The Second Lecture of the Series will be delivered on February 5, at 8.30, by J. Norman Lockyer, Esq., F.R.S. Subject: The Sun.

The subsequent Lectures will be as follows:—

Third Lecture, Monday, by John Ruskin, Esq. Subject: The Myths of India in Greek Legend.—Fourth Lecture, April 13, by the Rev. E. Thordar Rogers, M.A. Subject: Sir Robert Walpole.—Fifth Lecture, May 11, by Prof. T. H. Key, F.R.S. Subject: Some leading Principles in Geology.—Sixth Lecture, June 8, by Michael Foster, F.R.M.S. Subject: Organic and Inorganic Chemistry.—The Tickets are transferable, and will admit either Ladies or Gentlemen. They may be obtained at the Office of the College. Price, for the course, 6s. 6d. To Fund a Single Lecture, 2s. 6d. The proceeds will be paid over to the Fund now being raised for erecting the South Wing of the College.

JOHN ROBSON, B.A., Secretary to the Council.

INSTITUTION OF NAVAL ARCHITECTS.—NOTICE.

The NINTH ANNUAL MEETING of the INSTITUTION OF NAVAL ARCHITECTS will be held on THURSDAY, FRIDAY and SATURDAY, the 18th, 19th and 20th of March, at the Hall of the Society of Arts, John-street, Adelphi, London. There will also be EVENING MEETINGS on THURSDAY and FRIDAY, at 7 o'clock.

Papers on Naval Architecture, Construction, on Practical Ship-building, on Steam Navigation, on the Equipment and Management of Ships for Merchandise and for War, will be read at this Meeting.

CHARLES CAMPBELL, Assistant Secretary, 6, Adelphi-terrace, London, W.C., January, 1869.

MATHEMATICAL MASTER WANTED.

ROYAL BELFAST ACADEMICAL INSTITUTION.

The present Head Master of the Mathematical and Mercantile School in this Institution having resigned, the Managers and Visitors intend electing a Successor on the 11th day of March next. Testimonials, stating Qualifications and Experience in teaching, will be required to be sent to the 1st day of March, by Mr. Assistant Secretary, William Stewart, Esq., Linen Hall, Belfast, who will give all information to Candidates regarding Duties and Emoluments.

W. J. C. ALLEN, Secretary.

Belfast, 2nd February, 1869.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, CIRENCESTER.

President.

His Grace the DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH, D.C.L. F.R.G.S. Council.

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The Rev. John Constable, M.A., Trix, Coll., Cambridge.

John Whitehead, F.C.I. M.R.A.C. Chemistry.

Arthur H. Church, M.A., Lincoln Coll., Oxon. F.C.S. Assistant to Chemical Professor.—Beaumont J. Grosjean.

Natural History.—Wm. T. Thistleton Dyer, B.A., late Junior Student, Christ Church, Oxon.

Leopoldo P. G. Physiologist, and Hygiene.—J. A. McBride, Ph.D. M.R.C.V.S.

Mathematics and Surveying.—The Principal.

The next SESSION commences February 8th. For Forms of Admission apply to the PRINCIPAL.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY of ENGLAND.

Agricultural Education.

The EXAMINATION of CANDIDATES for the Society's Educational Prizes will take place in the Week commencing MARCH, 1869.

Copies of the Form required to be sent in by the 18th of March may be obtained on application to H. M. JENKINS, Secretary.

15, Hanover-square, London, W.

SOCIETY OF FEMALE ARTISTS.—Gallery, 9, Conduit-street, Regent-street.

The EXHIBITION of Works of this Society will OPEN to the public on MONDAY, February 8.

The COSTUME LIFE ACADEMY will re-commence TUESDAY, February 12, under the Director, W. H. FISK, Esq. Visitor, George D. Leslie, Esq., R.A.

All particulars to be obtained at the Gallery. Inquiries, by letter, to the Honorary SECRETARY of the Society.

MEMORIAL WINDOW to the Rev. F. W. ROBERTSON.—Trinity Chapel, Brighton, being now in course of enlargement, an excellent opportunity presents itself for making a TEN POUND Window to the Commemoration Table to the memory of the late Rev. F. W. Robertson.

A Committee, of which the Principal of Brighton College is the Chairman, has been formed to carry out the plan.

Subscriptions will be received—

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ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS.—At a General Assembly of the Members, held on Saturday, January 30th, GEORGE MASON and EDWARD J. POYNTER, Esquires, were elected Associate Members.

JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Secretary.

MUSICAL UNION, 1869.—Twenty-fifth Season.—Members are requested to pay their SUBSCRIPTIONS to Lamborn, Cock & Co., Bond-street, or by Cheque to the Director. Tickets and Record will be sent in due time. Members declining Subscription to notify the same before March to J. ELLIS, 9, Victoria-square, Grosvenor-gardens, S.W.

SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS.—The MEETING for the ELECTION of ASSOCIATES for this Society will in future be held at the End of MARCH instead of February.—Particulars may be obtained from the Secretary, WILLIAM CALLOW, 5, Pall Mall East.

EDUCATION, PARIS.—Under the patronage of the Princess de Beauvau.—A French Lady, having successfully established a College for the Education of Young Ladies, begs to inform English Families that she wishes to RECEIVE THE SERVICES of a French Governess, who is desirous of residing with, and being under the moral and religious guidance of an English Protestant Lady, widow of a medical man. The best Professors are engaged. Terms, 80s. per annum. References given and required.—Letters may be addressed to Mrs. RIX, 4, York-street, Covent-garden, and Mrs. Rix would arrange an interview.

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MARRIED FRENCH CLERGYMAN (Protestant), having been many years at the head of an Educational Establishment, wishes to meet with an ENGAGEMENT in a French Professor of French, Latin, Greek, &c. in a Public or Private School. Highest references can be given. For further particulars address to E. SELCKINGHAUS, 117, Vyse-street, Birmingham.

LADIES' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION, LONDON.

Under the auspices of this Association for the Promotion of a higher Education among Women, TWO COURSES OF LECTURES will be given in the Hall of the University College to LADIES, at the Beethoven Rooms, 27, Harley-street, W., on WEDNESDAYS and FRIDAYS, beginning on Wednesday, the 24th of February.

Subjects:—EXPERIMENTAL PHYSICS, with special reference to SOUND and HEAT; by Prof. G. Carey Foster; at 11 A.M. each day.

The Spirit of ENGLISH LITERATURE, illustrated by an Outline of its Course with special study of some of its Masterpieces; by Prof. Henry Morley; at 12.15 each day.

Fee, for each Course, consisting of at least Twenty Lectures, 2s. 2d. each. Classes may be taken separately. Admission to first Lecture, free (fifty tickets).

The aim in both Courses being to give solid instruction, regular exercises will be prescribed for all those who may choose to have their progress so tested. Girls under 17 years of age not admitted.

The following are a few of those who have given the scheme their approval.—Lady Stanley, Lord and Lady Blessington, Mr. James Bonham, Dr. Mrs. Carpenter, Lady Collyer, Lady Coley, Hon. George Denman, Sir Francis and Lady Goldsmid, Mr. and Mrs. Grove, Mr. W. R. Grove, Mr. Robert Hutton, Vice-Chancellor and Mrs. James Sir John and Lady Lubbock, Sir Charles and Lady Lyell, Mr. J. S. Mill, Lord Rutherford, Mr. E. Romilly, Dr. Sharpey, Mr. and Mrs. Spottiswoode.

Prospectsuses and information to be had on application to any of the following members of the Executive Committee:—

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Mrs. Grove, 115, Harley-street, W.

Mrs. H. G. Jones, 10, Regent's Park, N.W.

Mrs. P. A. Taylor, Aubrey House, Notting-hill, W.

Mrs. Hensleigh Wedgwood, 1, Cumberland-place, Regent's Park, N.W.

Or to the Honorary Secretary, J. E. MYLNE, 27, Oxford-square, W.

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AND OTHER QUALIFIED UNIVERSITY MASTERS.

* * * The School RE-OPENED January 28th.

For particulars, apply to Rev. T. F. FENN, Trent College, near Nottingham.

NOTICE.—On Thursday, the 18th instant, will be published, in demy 8vo. Vol. I. of a

HISTORY of ENGLAND, from the Earliest Times to the Present Time, 15 vols. by SIR EDWARD S. CREASY, M.A., sometime Professor of History in University College, London; late Fellow of King's College, Cambridge. Vol. I., being the History of England to the End of the Reign of Edward I.

London: JAMES WALTON, Bookseller and Publisher to University College, 137, Gower-street.

MISS LOUISA DREWRY, Professor of History and of the English Language and Literature, has RECOMMENDED her Courses of LESSONS in these subjects.—15, King Henry's-road, Upper Avenue-road, N.W.

MISS EMILY FAITHFULL will LECTURE on the CONDITION and CLAIMS of WOMEN at Glasgow, February 8th; Edinburgh, the 9th; Hartley Institution, Southampton, the 13th; Bournemouth, the 17th; Weston-super-Mare, March 10th.—Communications to be addressed to the Victoria Press, Princes-street, Hanover-square, W.

THE SIAMESE TWINS.—These Wonderful Living Curiosities will make their first appearance in London at the EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly, on MONDAY, February 8.

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MR. J. C. STEVENS will SELL by AUCTION, at his Great Rooms, 35, King-street, Covent-garden, on FRIDAY, February 12, at half past 12, CAMERA and LENSES, by Ross, Daingerfield, Voightlander, and others, Microscopes, Telescopes, Theodolites, Musical Boxes, Stereoscopes and Slides, and a great variety of Miscellaneous Articles.

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MR. J. C. STEVENS has received instructions to SELL by AUCTION, at his Great Rooms, 35, King-street, Covent-garden, on THURSDAY, February 18, a large collection of Choice Mauritius SHELLS and a few from the Island of St. Jean de Novo, offering an unusual opportunity to Collectors, Amateurs, and the Public of procuring Specimens of the rarest shells, and the greater part, hitherto unknown, belonging to the Mauritius "Fanna." The Collection has been made by a Gentleman who has given up collecting in his own account, and the greater part of the Shells are from an island portion near the harbour of Port of Spain, the portion of a portion of the reef during the severe hurricane of March 1868.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1869.

LITERATURE

Lives of the Tudor Princesses. By Agnes Strickland. (Longmans & Co.)

THERE is a kind of satisfaction in turning over the leaves of a bad book, when it is thoroughly and beyond redemption bad. The encounter is somewhat rare, for almost every work of man's wit has merit of some sort. Miss Agnes Strickland has provided for her readers this unusual treat, in the hotch-potch called '*Lives of the Tudor Princesses*'; a work, the perfect badness of which may safely defy competition from all other volumes of the past season. We notice that the title-page is dated 1868, and we must, therefore, class it with the failures of a departed year.

The Tudor Princesses, Mary Tudor, Jane Grey, Catherine and Mary Grey, Elinor Brandon and Arabella Stuart, are not bad subjects for literary treatment. Unhappily for Miss Strickland, the story of these Princesses has all been told in recent years. Mrs. Everett Green has written the tale of Mary Tudor with a fullness of knowledge to which her follower can make no claim. Mr. Howard has told the story of Lady Jane. Prof. Craik has given us ample details on '*The Sisters of Lady Jane Grey*'. Miss Cooper has written two volumes on Arabella Stuart. All these writers have gone over the ground with some sort of care and thought; in a critical spirit, more or less; and with due respect to readers who know that the history of their country is not an old woman's tale.

Why does the new adventurer come upon their ground? She has no new fact to tell. She has no new argument to offer. She has no new portrait to paint. In the mere reading for her work she is twenty years behind her time. Of the daily discoveries made in the State Paper Office she is absolutely unaware. Nay, it is doubtful whether she has ever heard of the great series of Calendars published by our Master of the Rolls. In this volume there is one reference to these papers; where we are referred to the Calendar by Mr. Simon. No calendar has been made by Mr. Simon. We presume the lady means the well-known antiquary, Mr. Lemon. Miss Strickland, we may add in this connexion, is uncommonly wrong in names. She mis-spells Burghley throughout Burleigh. She turns the noble name of Grey into Gray. With her, Father Parsons is Father Parsons. She changes Doleman into Dolman; and is unaware that Doleman is but a name of the pen for Parsons. With her Prince Henry is always the Prince of Wales, though every school-girl knows that Henry was not created Prince of Wales until 1610. But the most amusing point of all, is the system of reference here employed. The use of reference is an open question. A good writer, like Palgrave, may drop it altogether, and ask his reader to follow him in faith. A bad writer, like Stevens, may clip out pages of authorities from any book at hand and paste them into his own as footnotes. Lastly, a man may cite the books he really uses, giving the editions and the pages on which he relies for facts. Miss Strickland has a way of her own, differing from all these known practices. She quotes authorities on almost every page; but her references are of little service to her reader, since they sometimes take the compendious form of "Speed," "Erasmus," and the like; occasionally varied by "Cott. MS.," "Harl. MS.," and their like also. Generally, however, Miss Strickland's references are to herself. See Miss Strickland's '*Lives of the Queens of England*'; see Miss Strickland's '*Lives of the Queens of Scotland*'; this is the

burthen (in foot-notes) of nearly every page. Now and then, the phrase is varied, and we are sent to '*The Pictorial History of England*', or some such modern compilation, as the voucher for a fact occurring in the life of a Tudor Princess! Perhaps it was from some "*Pictorial*" history that Miss Strickland copied her curious fact of Mary Tudor being the second daughter of Henry the Seventh. We had always counted her the third.

To give the reader some quick idea of the way in which this book has been compiled, we take one life out of the series—that of Arabella Stuart; not because it is worse than that of Mary Tudor, that of Elinor Brandon, that of Jane Grey, but because it is one of the shortest in the volume. The blunders committed in this brief memoir are of every conceivable kind.

Miss Strickland begins her account of Arabella by saying that she was the daughter of Lord Charles Stuart; a title given to her father a score of times; so that it cannot be set down as a misprint. Now, the father of Arabella never bore the name of Lord Charles Stuart. His elder brother, Henry, had the courtesy title of Lord Darnley; but Charles, the younger son of an earl, had no claim to the name of Lord. The Queen of Scots made Charles Earl of Lennox; but her son James, the reigning king, refused to ratify her grant; and Charles Stuart, the father of Arabella, lived and died plain Mr. Stuart, in spite of his being the grandson of a queen and the uncle to a king.

Two or three pages later on, we have a charming bit of historical confusion. Lord Burghley (always written Burleigh) and Lord Robert Dudley figure in the same letter; a fact which must have greatly astonished the heralds, seeing that Lord Robert Dudley had been created Baron Denbigh and Earl of Leicester eight years before Sir William Cecil obtained his peerage. On the same page with this droll conjunction we read that "in the spring of 1577," Margaret, Countess of Lennox, died, "not without suspicion of poison," and that Queen Elizabeth "seized upon all her property, leaving Arabella destitute." Now Margaret died on the 10th of March, 1578-9, two years later than Miss Strickland fancies. Nobody ever thought of poison in her case. Why should they? Margaret was an aged lady, full of sorrows and of years. On the edge of seventy, a woman who has lived poor Margaret's life—who has been a prisoner in the Tower for years at a spell, who has seen a betrothed lover pine to death in a dungeon, who has seen her husband and her son assassinated—need not call in the poisoner's aid. But the Queen seized her property! Reference to Miss Cooper's biography would have shown Miss Strickland that Margaret had no property to seize. The crown took possession of her personal effects, in order to deal justly by her many creditors; but the royal lady left the world so poor that the expenses of her magnificent funeral in Westminster Abbey had to be borne by the Queen. Nor was Arabella left by her grandmother destitute. Margaret, it is true, had no money to leave her; but Margaret had married her son Charles to Bessie Cavendish, and the Cavendishes were already becoming, under the thrift of Bess of Hardwick, one of the wealthiest families in England.

Miss Bessie Cavendish, who married Charles Stuart, is called by Miss Strickland "the Countess Elizabeth Lennox," a title which she never bore and never could have borne. Her husband's father had been Earl of Lennox; but her husband was a younger son, and younger sons do not in England inherit their father's rank. The title would have come to Darnley had Darnley

outlived his father; and when both were gone it descended to Darnley's son, King James the Sixth. Mary took the title from her son, and gave it to her uncle; but she had no right to do this act; and the transfer was never ratified in either the English or the Scottish court. When James the Sixth parted with the Earldom of Lennox, he bestowed it on his cousin, Esme Stuart. Even if Mary's grant had been valid in law, and accepted in usage, Charles's wife would have been styled the Countess of Lennox, not the Countess Elizabeth Lennox.

Miss Strickland's confusion of names and dignities is marvellous. While Arabella is yet a baby she betroths her to Leicester's son; "this was the Earl of Denbigh, the son of the Earl of Leicester by his Countess Lettice Knolles." Of course, the boy never was Earl of Denbigh; and of course his mother was Lettice Knolles, not "Lettice Knolles."

When we come to the really important part of Arabella's life, that of her appearance in public, in connexion with what Cecil called the Arabella Plot, the bewilderment as to time and place is wonderful. On page 358 we find Arabella living at Winchester, in "the antique Castle." The only "antique" castle at Winchester was Wolvesey Castle, an ancient stronghold of the bishops; and Arabella was not there. But let this blunder pass. On the same page we find her brought to London for Raleigh's trial. We thought it had been the other way; and that Raleigh was taken down from London to Winchester for trial. Raleigh, we read, put "a personal insult on Lady Arabella," saying "she was a woman with whom he had no acquaintance, and of all whom he ever saw he liked her the least." No such words were uttered by Raleigh. In the very next line, we read "Lady Arabella was also present at Garnet's trial;" by which it is clear that Miss Strickland supposes Raleigh and Garnet were tried at the same time, in the same place, for the same offence! For in the next succeeding line, we read "at the approach of Christmas"—that is, the Christmas of 1603; a month after the trials at Winchester.

It is Miss Strickland's pleasure to represent King James as behaving well to Arabella, in order to raise a parable against the mercy of Elizabeth, and to this end she has no scruple in borrowing from Capt. Marryat's inexhaustible treasury any amount of fortune that may be necessary to make a heroine happy. In one place she makes the King grant Lady Arabella a pension of 16,000*l.* a year, together with a patent for the sale of wine! Sixteen thousand a year! Does Miss Strickland know how much money that sum would stand for in the coin of Victoria? It would be very nearly 100,000*l.* a year. Yet, a few pages further on, we find that Arabella is very poor.

Miss Strickland speaks in so many places of the Queen having robbed the Lenoxes of their English property, that it is needful to warn her readers that the Lenoxes never had any English property of *their own*. Lennox lost his Highland estates through a political revolution. He came to London a penniless fugitive, and received some bounty from King Henry, in order to attach him to English interests. The Crown which gave had clearly a right to take away. No property was seized from the Earl and Countess of Lennox which was not truly property of the Crown. Nor has Miss Strickland any true conception of a political escheat. She talks of robbery. Does she know in what way Lennox came to lose his English lands? Is she aware that he cheated and defied Elizabeth? Has she never heard that Lennox went to Holyrood on false pretences, that he betrayed his trust, that

he renounced his allegiance, that he thwarted the English policy and defied the English power? To speak of the resumption of lands bestowed on such a traitor as "robbery" is sheer nonsense, not to be tolerated even by a party of sentimentalists over tea and toast.

Of the same kind is all the twaddle here poured forth on the hardship of Queen Elizabeth not allowing anybody to marry anybody, under pain of fine and imprisonment. Did the lady never read the Royal Marriage Act? That prohibitive act was not of the Queen's making. Crown and country had found such a law necessary to the public peace; Parliament had passed it; and the Council had to enforce it. Gushing females may think the law a very cruel one; but the law was there, for good and bad; and statesmen, we need not hint, had a good deal to say in its behalf. The law still exists; nay, the romantic folk, who weep over the sorrows of Catharine Grey and Arabella Stuart, would probably think Queen Victoria justified in promptly repressing any tendency towards secret and lawless matches in her own family. Royalty has its duties as well as its dignities; and the first duty of every member of the royal race is to conform to the general law.

On the whole, Miss Strickland has a poor opinion of Queen Bess; and that is just what every one would expect who studies the harmonies of life. She thinks well of Mary, Queen of Scots, and has many a good word to say for James. In one place, she condoles with Mary over "her murdered husband!" Lower than this it is impossible to sink.

On Molecular and Microscopic Science. By Mary Somerville. 2 vols. (Murray.)

It has long been a reflection on science that, while its votaries were proudly boasting of having, by mind and method, bridged over millions of miles in space and determined some of the great phenomena of distant worlds, they had failed to elucidate the mysteries of a molecule. This is humiliating enough to the philosopher, but how much more sensibly is he brought to feel his weakness, when he reflects that he has not yet determined with precision the meaning of the term he uses! What is a molecule? asks the acolyte of the priest whom he serves. If he be a chemist, he will reply—The smallest quantity of a compound body that can take part in any chemical reaction; a molecule of water being an atom of hydrogen united with its necessary atom of oxygen. If he be a votary of physical science, his answer will be—The molecule of an element is the smallest group of atoms which can exist in a free state; a molecule of either hydrogen or oxygen may be an aggregation of many atoms. We were, at first, in some difficulty as to the meaning in which Mrs. Somerville uses the term "Molecular Science." The earlier sections of her work deal with the elementary constitution of matter, and the influences of the physical forces in determining the laws of combination. This necessarily led us to believe that the purpose of that lady was to discuss the involved phenomena of the combination of atoms, under the direction of the forces, Light, Heat, Electricity, and probably Life; and we are, even now, disposed to think that this was her first idea. Advancing carefully into the body of the book, we discovered, however, that Mrs. Somerville's molecule was the smallest particle of matter visible in the microscope, and that the first four sections had really but very slight connexion with the remaining portions of the work. We cannot but regret this. Mrs. Somerville is a woman gifted by nature with mental powers of a high order and of a rare character.

We learn that mathematics never presented a difficulty to her. We know that she could embrace with remarkable facility all the physical sciences. We have evidence in her works, not merely of that deductive power which Mr. Buckle declared to be peculiar to women, but of an inductive tendency which is rarely found amongst them. In evidence of this we have her investigations on the influence of light on magnetism, and on those peculiar heat rays—named, by Sir John Herschel, parathermic rays—to which, in all probability, belongs the power of ripening the fruits and grains, and which are certainly very intimately connected with that beautiful tinting which autumn gives to tree and shrub. In 1831, under the title of 'Mechanism of the Heavens,' Mrs. Somerville gave the world her admirable summary of the 'Mécanique Céleste' of Laplace; and, in 1834, she published 'The Connexion of the Physical Sciences.' Thus, for forty years, we have the evidence that this lady has unceasingly been studying the advance of human knowledge by the aid of scientific investigation. Therefore was she peculiarly fitted to produce a work which might have really dealt with the influences of the physical powers on the ultimate atom, and on the combination of atoms into the primary molecule or the primordial cell.

Although our science does not enable us to say how the molecules of carbon are aggregated into that light-refracting gem, the diamond, or how the organic molecules—the primordial cells—are built up into fruit-bearing trees, or developed into self-moving animals, yet has it told us something of molecular science which it is well the world should understand. For example, we know that by heat, and by electricity, the atom of oxygen can be made to take another condition, and to assume, as ozone, chemical relations which it did not possess as oxygen. We have learnt that the atom of phosphorus, which was a poison, can by light and heat be changed into a phosphorus which is nearly inert. Thus are we instructed on the influences exerted by those solar energies in changing the forms of matter. Again, we are taught the great truths that every form of chemical combination is directly regulated by the atmosphere of physical energy which involves every atom and interpenetrates each molecule. Beyond this we see, perhaps dimly, but yet clearly shadowed out, the existence of some all-pervading mechanical power antagonistic to gravitation, showing itself in cohesive and capillary attraction, and in all the varied phenomena of "osmose," as an energy peculiarly residing upon the surface of every material atom. Again, even beyond this, molecular science appears to instruct us that those forces or energies which perform so important a part in the construction of inorganic masses, are powerless to produce a *living* organism. There is scarcely any doubt that the force which is concerned in the aggregation of atoms into a mass requires the aid of magnetic or some form of electrical force to resolve the same atoms into the geometric arrangement of a crystal, which has been regarded by the poet as a mute image of the coming vegetation. Both molecular and microscopic science fail to convince the thoughtful mind that any combined or separate action of the physical forces is sufficient to build up even a vegetable cell, much less to kindle within it the spark of life.

Life—vital energy—with the phenomena of which, as developed by the microscope, Mrs. Somerville deals so largely and so well, is neither light nor heat nor electricity, but a principle or power superior to them all; claiming and obtaining the assistance of each, yet holding them in slave-like subjection. Mrs. Somerville might

have guided the student well and safely in his examination of the evidences which appear to show the operation of those forces, originating in the sun, in influencing the change of the inorganic atom into an organized molecule. The green slime which forms on the surface of water exposed to light, is the primordial cell in its earliest form. "The slime that covers damp walls or stones and moist cliffs or rocks in the sea, also the slime or mucus that sometimes swims on the surface of water, are said by M. Bory de St.-Vincent to be provisional creations waiting to be organized." May not the slime which has recently been discovered spread over the bottom of the deep Atlantic sea, and which has been somewhat hastily called *Protoplasm* (a formed work), be regarded as the first step rather towards organization, waiting for the touch of light, to develop it into the simplest form which appears capable of holding life?

It is here, however, that we notice some missing links. Indeed, the connexion between Part I. of this work, which concludes with Solar Spots, and of Part II., which commences with Vegetable Organism, is very obscure. Mrs. Somerville, as we have already intimated, intended to show that science has almost proved that the physical forces can resolve into forms of beauty the brute atoms, and that they have the power of producing new states in elementary matter—the allotropic condition—by which the number of chemical compounds in nature are infinitely increased. She has then, with wonderful industry, traced the "indefinitely small in the vegetable and animal creation" through all their varied, often beautiful, and frequently most intricate, organizations, for the purpose, as she writes, of showing "the relation between the powers of Nature and the particles of matter." This has not, however, been effected; and although a most instructive book has been produced—one from which a very large amount of real knowledge can be gained—it does not satisfactorily sustain the argument upon which it is based, and it is therefore left in a state of incompleteness. The connexion of molecular and microscopic science is, it is true, ever and anon cropping up—as in the following passage, which is both beautiful and true:—

"The incredible multitudes of the lowest grades of vegetable life, the rapidity of their growth, the shortness of their existence, and their enormous fruitfulness, make them powerful agents in preparing soil for the higher classes, which are nourished by their decay. But no sooner do even the monarchs of the forest fall than the work of destruction begins: the light and heat, which in their chemical form brought them to maturity, now in their physical character accelerate their decay; the moss and the lichen resume their empire, and live at the expense of the dying and the dead—a cycle which perpetuates the green mantle of the earth. Notwithstanding the important part these inferior beings perform in the economy of Nature, they were imperfectly known till they became a test for the powers of the microscope. Then, indeed, not only were the most wonderful organisms discovered in the ostensible tribes of the Cryptogamia, but a new and unseen creation was brought under mortal eye, so varied, astonishing and inexhaustible that no limit can be assigned to it. This invisible creation teems in the earth, in the air and in the waters, innumerable as the sands on the sea-shore. These beings have a beauty of their own, and are adorned and finished with as much care as the creatures of a higher order. The deeper the research, the more does the inexpressible perfection of God's works appear, whether in the majesty of the heavens or in the infinitesimal beings on the earth."

Our examination of 'Molecular and Microscopic Science' has been careful and earnest; and while we regret the failure in connecting the one with the other, to which we have directed attention, we strongly recommend

these volumes to the thoughtful reader, who desires to make himself acquainted with all that the microscope has discovered amidst the infinitely small organizations, which play so important a part in creation. The motto, chosen from St. Augustine, on the title-page, "Deus magnus in magnis, maximus in minimis," is pleasantly illustrated on almost every page; and every one will rise wiser and better from the attentive study of these volumes.

Krilof and his Fables. By W. R. S. Ralston, M.A. (Strahan & Co.)

WITH justice, Mr. Ralston speaks of the common people of Russia as "those many millions of fellow-Europeans of whom we know much less than we do of the Chinese or the American Indians." But every fresh year, by enlarging our knowledge of their literature, lessens our somewhat scandalous ignorance of the temper, genius and aspirations of the humbler classes of the race for whose amusement and moral guidance Krilof wrote the thoughtful and pungent fables which Mr. Ralston—a scholar whose familiarity with Russia and the Russians is rare in an Englishman—has translated closely and conscientiously from their original language. In this respect, the present volume differs from several of our English renderings of Russian books, which, whilst professing to have been made from the original tongue, have been nothing else than translations of translations—English reproductions of French and German renderings—in which the finest qualities of the first writers are but faintly discernible. Had Mr. Ralston wished to work in this fashion, he could have easily achieved the inglorious labour of a translator's translator, for the tales of the Russian fabulist have been produced and widely circulated in German and French; but, though he has examined and derived some gratefully-acknowledged assistance from M. Charles Parfait's French version and the German renderings by M. Ferdinand Torney and an anonymous German lady, our countryman's "translations have been made from the original Russian" and have undergone revision by a Russian gentleman, to whom he returns thanks for securing him "against that dread of possible blunders innocently committed, which so often hangs like a dreary shadow about a translator's seldom over-enviable path."

Dying at St. Petersburg in 1844, in the seventy-seventh year of his age, Krilof had first seen the light of heaven in an early year of Catherine's reign, when he was born in a social condition which, notwithstanding its comparative humility and abundant hardships, experience has proved to be favourable to intellectual activity. The son of a poor captain of infantry of the line, the fabulist was still in his fifteenth year when he found himself fatherless, and with no grander patrimony than a box of books, which had accompanied the elder Krilof in all his wanderings. On reaching St. Petersburg, whither the boy and his widowed parent migrated from Tver, the only means of subsistence offered to the mother and son was a post from which the latter derived the miserable salary of two roubles (about 6s.) a month—an office which he relinquished in 1788, when Death deprived him of his chief reason for toiling at uncongenial work for such wretched payment. Poverty had only stimulated his intellectual powers and overcome for a time the constitutional laziness which was his chief natural defect, and reappeared at a later period of his life in grotesque exhibitions of personal slovenliness and uncleanliness. Whilst still a

raw youth he had written dramas that were never acted, and started two short-lived journals, which vainly struggled for existence in days that Mr. Ralston briefly describes as "bad days for journalists in Russia." But brighter experiences were at hand for the literary aspirant who, through the intervention of the Empress Maria Fedorovna, obtained in 1801, what is a poor author's chief need in a rude state of society, a wealthy and sympathetic patron. There are many Princes of Galitsin in Russia; "so many, that tradition relates how a nobleman who, one day, attempted to pass over a river in a ferry-boat without payment, claiming exemption on the ground that he was a Prince Galitsin, was indignantly addressed by the ferryman with the words, 'Am not I a Prince Galitsin too?'" And on inquiry it was found that the Prince-ferryman's retort was no empty boast. But the Prince Sergius Galitsin, who extended seasonable patronage to the future fabulist, was a very important personage, living in magnificence alternately at Moscow and on his large estates. In the country "Prince Galitsin lived in great state, keeping up a band of forty musicians to play to him, and employing altogether as many as six hundred retainers in his household. The Prince and all his family were very kind to the young poet, who used to teach the children of the house, and get up little musical and theatrical entertainments for the amusement of his hosts. The only things he had to complain of were the gnats and flies, which are certainly very trying in Russia, and particularly in the neighbourhood of the Volga, and which he used to try to avoid by mounting to the top of the village belfry, where he was one day found, fast asleep among the bells." From the date of his introduction to Prince Sergius the poet's worldly career may be described as decidedly prosperous. Having conceived a strong passion for gambling he encountered exceptionally good luck at games of chance, and won enough money at cards to enable him for a time to enjoy the sweets of idleness and extravagance. Returning after awhile to St. Petersburg, he produced two comedies, which were acted with considerable success: and on the approach of his fortieth year, discovering the ground on which his special literary faculties could work with the greatest effect, he wrote the earliest of his fables, the success of which soon rendered him pre-eminent amongst the wits of the capital, and beloved by every class of his fellow-countrymen. The first collection, of twenty-three tales, appeared in 1809; the second, containing twenty-one, was published in 1811; and in the following year their author was appointed to a post in the Imperial Public Library, which had just been organized and placed under the direction of his intimate friend, Olenine. As Mr. Ralston calls this office "a very congenial post," we infer that its duties were light, for, though capable of irregular bursts of laborious exertion, Krilof certainly would have found no place to his taste for any great length of time which exacted from him any large amount of constant toil. That he remained in the library for nearly thirty years is additional evidence that the duties of the post were not onerous. With a comfortable salary, a pension of 60*l.* a-year, and his considerable literary earnings, the poet was henceforth fairly rich, at least rich for a bachelor; and to the last he remained a wifeless and childless man. Those who would know about the social humours and domestic eccentricities of this singular creature, who was at small pains to shine in the brilliant coteries that courted and petted him, and who cared for nothing in the world more than pleasant thoughts and good eating, must peruse the closely and well-written paper

into which Mr. Ralston has melted down whole volumes of biography and gossip.

The quickness with which Krilof's fables passed from the printer's hands to the closet of every Russian reader and the lips of every Russian peasant, was partly due to the patriotic sentiment of those of them that touched on political questions. For instance, this story of 'The Wolf in the Kennel,' written, it is remembered, in verse, like all the other fables, was no sooner printed in 1812 than it became a national song, that struck to the heart and brain of every noble and every peasant in all Russia:—

"A Wolf, one night, thinking to climb into a sheepfold, fell into a kennel. Immediately the whole kennel was up in arms. The dogs, scenting the grisly disturber so near at hand, began to bark in their quarters, and to tear out to the fight. 'Hallo, lads, a thief!' cried the keepers; and immediately the gates were shut. In a moment the kennel became a hell. Men come running, one armed with a club, another with a gun. 'Lights!' they cry; 'bring lights!' The lights being brought, our Wolf is seen sitting squeezed up in the furthest corner, gnashing its teeth, its hide bristling, and its eyes looking as if it would fain eat up the whole party. Seeing, however, that it is not now in the presence of the flock, and that it is now called upon to pay the penalty for the sheep it has killed, my trickster resorts to negotiation, beginning thus:—

'Friends, what is all this fuss about? I am your ancient gossip and comrade; and I have come here

to contract an alliance with you—not with the slightest intention of quarrelling. Let us forget

the past, and declare in favour of mutual harmony.

Not only will I for the future avoid touching the flocks belonging to this spot, but I will gladly

fight in their behalf against others; and I swear

on the word of a Wolf that I——'

"Listen, neighbour," here interrupted the huntsman. "You are grey-coated; but I, friend, am grey-headed, and I

have long known what your wolfish natures are

like, and therefore it is my custom never to make

peace with wolves until I have torn their skins from

off their backs." With that he let go the pack of hounds on the Wolf."

The wolf, of course, is Napoleon; the fearless dogs are the Russians, whom the invader expected to find timidous sheep; and the words put into the mouth of the wolf are almost the very words that the Corsican had uttered. "It is said," observes the translator, "that, after the battle of Krasnoe, Kutuzov read this fable aloud to the officers who stood round him, and that, when he came to the words, 'You are grey-coated; but I, friend, am grey-headed,' in which allusion is made to Napoleon's grey overcoat and his own white hair, he took off his white forage-cap, and shook his bent head."

But even finer qualities than patriotism and healthy political sympathies were the chief causes of Krilof's popularity and influence. Men of all grades detected in him a teacher whose voice was on the side of the virtues which conduce to human happiness, and strong against the vices which are most fruitful of human misery; a satirist on whose keen and brilliant blade there was no smear of poison; a fireside philosopher overflowing with manly disdain, but cherishing no spark of malignant animosity, for social pretenders of every shade and degree; a teacher whose lessons were no less intelligible and useful to children at school than to grey-headed elders; an honest and sober citizen, who was just as clever in expressing gratitude for good as contempt for bad men. Mr. Ralston has forborne to give us at full length "the morals" which the fabulist appended to his fables, in deference to the dull, for whom he was more solicitous than for the quick-witted; and in this respect the translator has done well, for the fables explain themselves so completely that no English ploughboy can fail to discover

their principal meanings. And the lessons, thus enforced by humorous anecdotes, are all the more delightful because they are just such lessons as every man amongst us has received in boyhood from the fireside sages of his own home. They are directed against drunkenness, ignorance, ostentatious extravagance, unseasonable parsimony, the officiousness of fools, vain disputes, arrogance, the insolence engendered by favourable circumstances, extortionate usages, stupid governors, and social pretenders. If there is ever a ring of bitterness and personal enmity in Krilof's satire, it is heard when he is laughing at social imposture and the ignorance that presumes to make laws for the wise. A good musician himself, he was apt to be irritable at singers without voices, and he declined to commend their discordant notes in consideration of their private virtues, after the fashion of the sentimentalists of our own country, who speak pleasant things of Charles the First's government because he was a virtuous husband :—

"A certain man invited a neighbour to dinner, not without an ulterior purpose. He was fond of music, and he entrapped his neighbour into his house to listen to his choir. The honest fellows began to sing, each on his own account, and each with all his might. The guest's ears began to split, and his head to turn. 'Have pity on me!' he exclaimed, in amazement. 'What can any one like in all this? Why, your choristers bawl like madmen.' 'It's quite true,' replied the host, with feeling. 'They do fay one's ears just a trifle. But, on the other hand, they are all of irreproachable behaviour, and they never touch a drop of intoxicating liquor.' But, I say in my opinion you had better drink a little, if needs be: only take care to understand your business thoroughly."

The humour of this pleasant protest is akin to the humour of Hood's apology for the ass, "He has not got no milk, but he can bray." In the following fable also we are reminded of an English worthy—the Stuart who could make a man a knight, though he was powerless to make him a gentleman :—

"The Eagle promoted a Cuckoo to the rank of a Nightingale. The Cuckoo, proud of its new position, seated itself proudly on an aspen, and began to exhibit its musical talents. After a time, it looks round. All the birds are flying away, some laughing at it, others abusing it. Our Cuckoo grows angry, and hastens to the Eagle with a complaint against the birds. 'Have pity on me!' it says. 'According to your command, I have been appointed Nightingale to these woods, and yet the birds dare to laugh at my singing.' 'My friend,' answers the Eagle, 'I am a king, but I am not God. It is impossible for me to remedy the cause of your complaint. I can order a Cuckoo to be styled a Nightingale; but to make a Nightingale out of a Cuckoo—that I cannot do.'"

Against the assumptions of amateur critics the fabulist was pricked into warfare by a great man who had asked the poet to read him some of his fables. Krilof complied civilly; and when the reading had come to an end, the noble patron of letters said, "That is very good; but why don't you translate, as Dmitriev does?" "I cannot," modestly answered the poet, who forthwith returned to his home, and wrote down the grandeau ass in the following story :—

"An Ass happened to see a Nightingale, one day, and said to it, 'Listen, my dear. They say you have a great mastery over song. I have long wished very much to hear you sing, and to judge as to whether your talent is really so great.' On this the Nightingale began to make manifest its art—whistled in countless ways, sobbed, sustained notes, passed from one song to another; at one time let her voice die away, and echoed the distant murmur of the languishing reed; at another, poured through the wood a shower of tiny notes. Then all listened to the favourite singer of Aurora. The breezes died away; the feathered choir was hushed; the cattle lay down on the grass. Scarcely breath-

ing, the shepherd revelled in it, and only now and then, as he listened to it, smiled on the shepherdess. At length the singer ended. Then the Ass, bending its head towards the ground, observed, 'It's tolerable. To speak the truth, one can listen to you without being bored. But it's a pity you don't know our Cock. You would sing a great deal better if you were to take a few lessons from him.' Having heard such a judgment, our poor Nightingale took to its wings and flew far away."

Of the political fables, one of the most humorous is 'The Elephant as Governor':—

"An Elephant was once appointed ruler of a forest. Now, it is well known that the race of elephants is endowed with great intelligence; but every family has its unworthy scion. Our Governor was as stout as the rest of his race are, but as foolish as the rest of his race are not. As to his character, he would not intentionally hurt a fly. Well, the worthy Governor becomes aware of a petition laid before him by the Sheep, stating that their skins are entirely torn off their backs by the Wolves. 'Oh, rogues!' cries the Elephant, 'what a crime! who gave you leave to plunder?' But the Wolves say, 'Allow us to explain, O father. Did not you give us leave to take from the Sheep a trifling contribution for our pelisses in winter? It is only because they are stupid sheep that they cry out. They have only a single fleece taken from each of them, but they grumble about giving even that!' 'Well, well,' says the Elephant, 'take care what you do. I will not permit any one to commit injustice. As it must be so, take a fleece from each of them. But do not take from them a single hair besides.' He who has rank and power, but wants sense, however good his heart may be, is sure to do harm."

In the same vein was the fabulist's last protest against the busybodyism of fools, who, he was inclined to think, were never so near doing well as when they did nothing :—

"Once, in the days of old, a certain Grandee passed from his richly decked bed into the realm which Pluto sways. To speak more simply, he died. And so, as was anciently the custom, he appeared before the justice-seat of Hades. Straightway he was asked, 'Where were you born? What have you been?' 'I was born in Persia, and my rank was that of Satrap. But, as my health was feeble during my lifetime, I never exercised any personal control in my province, but left everything to be done by my secretary.' 'But you—what did you do?' 'I ate, drank, and slept; and I signed everything he set before me.' 'In with him, then, at once into Paradise!' 'How now? Where is the justice of this?' thereupon exclaimed Mercury, forgetting all politeness. 'Ah, brother,' answered Eacus, 'you know nothing about it. But don't you see this? The dead man was a fool. What would have happened if he, who had such power in his hands, had unfortunately interfered in business? Why, he would have ruined the whole province. The tears which would have flowed then would have been beyond all calculation. Therefore it is that he has gone into Paradise, because he did not interfere with business.'

No reader of this charming volume can fail to think that Mr. Ralston acted wisely in deciding to adhere closely to the words of his original, and not to sacrifice the fabulist's thought by throwing the translations into metre and rhyme.

Who wrote 'Brittain's Ida'? Answered in a Letter to Sir John D. Coleridge, M.P. By the Rev. Alexander B. Grosart. (Ellis.)

THE REV. ALEXANDER GROSART, the lucky gentleman who raised and settled the question of the true authorship of 'The Christian Paradoxes,' long assigned to Bacon, has made another venture in literary identification. His second appearance is less imposing and important than the first; yet the question here raised is of literary interest, in so far as it touches the fame of two of our greatest poets. 'Who wrote

'Brittain's Ida'? is the query which he now starts, and in some sort answers.

Every reader of old poetry is aware that this poem may be found in all collected editions of Spenser's works, and that in all modern editions of that poet it appears under protest. "We are convinced," says Mr. Collier, "that Spenser was not the author of 'Brittain's Ida.'" Warton and Todd were of the same opinion. Still, a work which nobody assigns to Spenser's muse is always included in Spenser's works. 'Brittain's Ida' is a piece of some merit. It is sweet in line and strong in flavour. It is full of youth. The poet, indeed, tells us it is an early effort; perhaps a maiden effort of his pen :—

But stay, bold shepherd! Here thy foiling stay,
Nor trust too much unto thy new-born quill.

It is certainly warm in tone; reckless with the free animal gaiety of twenty-five. The blood is hot; the lift is quick; and every line is charged with a youthful spirit. Yet this piece, unpublished until 1628, has been attributed to Shakespeare as well as to Spenser; in which case it must have been written in his ripest time.

A careful re-perusal of 'Brittain's Ida' leaves upon our mind a strong impression—we do not like to say conviction—of these two points:—(1) That the poet who composed it was very young; and (2) that the date of composition was close upon that of publication. So far from being a work by Edmund Spenser, it is not in his mood, not in his method. A weak imitator could not call it in Spenser's manner; we do not mean simply as to style, thought and cadence; but even as to period. In 'Brittain's Ida' there is no trace of the great Elizabethan age; and a man who could class the 'Faery Queene' with such a work would not scruple to confuse the Old Red Sandstone with the Chalk. 'Brittain's Ida' belongs in structure and in rhythm to the opening days of Charles the First. If it belongs to the age of James the First, it can only be to the end of that sovereign's reign.

Among the poets to whom 'Brittain's Ida' has been ascribed by uncritical publishers and critical editors are Spenser, Shakespeare and Phineas Fletcher. Wakley, the first publisher, assigned it to Spenser on the ground that he had been "assured it must be" the work of that poet. This was a publisher's trick, to which no weight need be allowed. Bright, the antiquary, assigned it to Shakespeare; an assignment scarcely less absurd than that of Wakley, without having the trade excuse for being wrong. Warton was the first to suggest Phineas Fletcher; and this idea has been growing ever since he threw it out into something like a general opinion on the part of critics. This is the idea taken up by Mr. Grosart, and put before the reader with a lively commentary.

The evidence adduced, we grieve to say, is all internal and unsatisfactory. It is the argument of similarity in words and thoughts; an argument open, as Mr. Grosart must admit, to the rejoinder that it rather establishes imitation than authorship. A good poet—and the singer of 'The Purple Island' was certainly a good poet—does not reproduce himself; and similarity of phrase and thought will suggest to most men an argument the very reverse of that which Mr. Grosart presses into his service. Mr. Grosart proves too much. The passages cited from 'Brittain's Ida' are *too much* like the parallel passages from Fletcher.

The question is, however, to be kept open. Mr. Grosart is engaged in preparing an edition of Phineas Fletcher's works, in which he will include a biography of the poet, containing some new facts which bear, he tells us, on the point. His argument needs these new facts.

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NEW NOVELS.

Meta's Faith. By the Author of 'St. Olave's,' &c. 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

THE steady and quiet pace at which this simple story flows from an unambitious beginning to a pathetic termination resembles the low measure of speed at which Fergus Ellersley, D.D., governor of the new Dissenting College of Carriden-Regis, drove Meta WaldeMAR, on the first occasion of their being thrown together, "in the doctor's little basket-carriage through the seven miles of moorland and meadowland which lay between the great manufacturing town of Millsmarry and the quiet, secluded, but remarkably aristocratic village of Carriden-Regis." But though a sober and tranquil tale, deficient in action and notably devoid of stirring incidents, it creates strong interest by the naturalness and force of several of its delineations of character, and by the cleverness with which it inculcates certain wholesome lessons respecting the affections and moral life of men and women in the middle and later terms of existence. In their self-sufficiency and selfishness the young of both sexes are too apt to think that romantic love is altogether their affair, and that when human creatures have lost something of their youthful vivacity and exhibit some of the external signs of increasing years, they can care for none but the prosaic concerns of this world, and only render themselves ridiculous when they betray a sentimental tenderness for their associates of a younger generation. On these and other kindred points the lads and lasses differ from the author of 'Meta's Faith,' who insists that a middle-aged widower like Dr. Ellersley, or an outwardly austere old maid like Ann Hacklebury, is as capable of romantic affection as any boy and girl now for the first time plunging into love's sweet madness. In a manner that will win the approval, and in some cases the gratitude of mature novel-readers, this doctrine is very delicately and cogently urged by the scribe who displays her sex in such passages as the one in which she remarks, "Life at Percy Cottage, as is generally the case where a household consists entirely of very moderately gifted women, was rather a *worrying* process. A family without the masculine element is something like an egg without salt, or a dish of trifles without the concealed ring which imparts such wonderful flavour and piquancy to the rest of the compound. Women were never intended to cluster together in close boroughs, paying their own taxes, looking after their own rights, slipping along through the world without that wholesome, disciplinary friction which the presence of the sterner sex is so well calculated to produce. Even if a man can do nothing else in a house, he seldom fails to give the women about him abundant opportunities for self-denial, and so brings out the noblest part of their nature." In the same vein of humour the author observes, "But a man does more in a general way than keep the women about him from having time to think too much of themselves. Though undeniably productive of an untold amount of trouble in the shape of hot dinners and carefully prepared sauces, and various other little gastronomical dainties for which he has a natural appetency; and though when, having seen him safely off to his office or warehouse, after a good breakfast, his wife is conscious of a bounding sense of independence until such time as he comes home again to dine; still a man, if he is worthy the name at all, and not just a mere machine for bread-gathering and rent-paying, does bring with him a waft of clear, invigorating, health-promoting air into

his house. He supplies the needful oxygen without which the light of home life is apt to burn dim, and the atmosphere to become stifling."

The heroine is a pleasant girl, with no more distinctive characteristic than an inconvenient truthfulness, who puts her faith in a rough, honest, manly suitor of her own age, and after pining for him even unto the border of death becomes his mildly exultant wife, to the untold anguish of good Dr. Ellersley, who, finding himself unable to win her affection, goes softly for the rest of his days, and passes to the grave with the secret of his futile love buried in the heart which it has broken. Some of the incidents and characters of the drama are commonplace and feeble. Meta's foolish, scheming step-mother, and Rodney Charnock, the insolent student who leads the fashion of the idler students at the Carriden-Regis dissenting college, are not worthy the pains bestowed on their unsatisfactory portraiture. But Ann Hacklebury, the rheumatic spinster of crabbed exterior and gentle heart, is an unusually successful delineation. Nothing is said in the earlier parts of the story to palliate Ann's asperities by assigning them to an early disappointment: but when the good creature, after helping Meta through her troublous love-affairs to a happy marriage, has finished her world's work and suffering, the excuse for the flaws in her goodness is skilfully revealed. "When Miss Hacklebury," says her historian, "knew that all would soon be over—that her days of visiting and herb-tonic making, and vigorous, well-intentioned scolding were at an end, she asked Meta to bring her writing-desk, and took out of it a packet of yellow, faded letters, which she requested should be put into her coffin and buried with her. Then kissing Stephen Garton's wife, she said, 'I am glad I have lived to see you happy, Meta.' And so died good, tender, though rough-hearted Dorothy Ann Hacklebury, and passed away to a sweeter joy than earth had ever given her." 'Meta's Faith' cannot be commended for unusual strength or originality; but its perusal has afforded us a few hours of wholesome pleasure, and some other day we shall be found ready for a similar story from the same writer.

All but Lost: a Novel. By G. A. Henty. 3 vols. (Tinsley Brothers.)

THE author of 'The March to Magdala' has made an essay in romantic art that inclines us to predict good things from him. Inferring from the nature of the shortcomings of his story that he is a comparatively young man, we have no hesitation in saying that, should he labour strenuously and fulfil its promise, he will ere long become a successful novelist. The book overflows with evidence that he has a strong head and a fine heart, and is made of the stuff out of which true gentlemen are formed. All that the book lacks is art—not mere literary knack (for Mr. Henty writes vigorously and with unusual cleverness), but the story-teller's special art. The first volume contains a great deal of raw stuff, which leads the reader to form a low estimate of the writer's capacity and worldly knowledge, and raises a transient doubt whether it is advisable to work onwards to the second volume. The scenes of college-life are hackneyed and unalluring; the talk about Chartists is misplaced, and to no good purpose; and all the earlier portions of the narrative are disjointed. But when he has learnt how to handle his tools, the writer makes amends for an unsatisfactory beginning: the faults of his labour disappear, and its merits grow more conspicuous; and placed at his ease, the reader sees that his author has worked from

the first with a definite plan and for a sufficient object.

A bare statement of the plot would result in the inference that 'All but Lost' is a commonplace drama, in which vice and virtue have a smart tussle, to the eventual defeat of evil and the exaltation of goodness. The main incidents of the story have been used repeatedly by writers of romance, and the delineations of character are less remarkable for originality than vigour. There are the choleric uncle, who turns a beloved nephew out of his house and heart on palpably insufficient proofs of the youngster's iniquity; the pretty little girl, who sells newspapers and bad tobacco in the musty shop of her helpless father, until she falls a prey to the seducer's wiles; and the plausible villain, who ousts his virtuous cousin out of the irritable uncle's affections, and escapes exposure and chastisement till the close of the third volume, when, to the intense delight of spectators, he receives a proper amount of horse-whipping and kicks, and is sent to a bad end on the other side of the Atlantic. To bring about the hero's disgrace and banishment from society, the author has recourse to interception of letters; and to restore him to the love of his kindred and to his proper place in society, the girl, whom he is supposed to have ruined and driven to suicide, is recovered at a seasonable moment, and brought upon the stage in perfect health and a suitable condition of penitence for her early misdemeanour. The gentlewomen of the story—gracious, kindly and lovely creatures though they be—are heroines of commonplace types. When the play has been played out, and time has been given for the pulse to recover its customary evenness, the critic is slightly ashamed of himself for having been lured by old tricks into hating a villain whose melo-dramatic wickedness is totally wanting in novelty, and into believing in the reality of a story that is mainly composed of the worn-out and dusty properties of the romantic craft. But to Mr. Henty's credit it must be put, that the interest has been roused, and that the effect endures when the nature of his devices have been recognized and deliberately thought upon.

More than on any other character, the success of the book depends on Frank Maynard, who is a hero of Guy Livingstone's type, so far as courage, physical grandeur, and muscular prowess are concerned, but who combines generosity and manly goodness with thews of steel and a gallant aspect. A manly, cordial young Templar, Frank in the earlier parts of the narrative cannot look on misery without hastening to alleviate it, cannot see weakness without stepping forward to protect it, cannot encounter vice without loathing it; and when he finds himself ruined in purse and cast away by the head of his family, he earns an honest subsistence by such work as offers him the best chance of providing for the wants of his wife and children—work that places him in the position of a servant to his cousin Fred Bingham, who has been the undiscovered and unsuspected cause of his misfortunes. The eventual reconciliation between Frank and his uncle—consummated on board the Tasmania, just in time to prevent the nephew and his family from emigrating to Australia—is capitally managed. When Frank has shaken hands with his uncle, he leaves it to his wife to decide whether they shall proceed to Australia or return to the home from which they have been so long and unjustly excluded. "My Katie's a proud little woman," says the young man, "in her way, and she has been sorely tried. I am quite ready to forget all the past, but I cannot answer for her. She will not move an inch for the sake of position or money; indeed, they will, I know, make her more reso-

lute to go on than she might otherwise be. I shall tell her the story, uncle, and leave it in her hands." He continues: "Mind, uncle, I leave it with Katie; if she is the least sore—and you know she will naturally be less ready to make allowances than I am—if she is the least sore—if she says to me, 'I would rather go, Frank,' I go. I shall be very, very glad to know that I go friends with you, uncle—that this miserable misunderstanding is cleared up; but, whatever the pecuniary consequence to me, however much you may be grieved or offended, I abide by Katie's wishes." Of course Katie gives the final touch to the peace-making; and after a series of pleasant domestic scenes, the curtain falls between the actors and a house in which there is neither a dry eye nor a heavy heart. Whether Mr. Henty possesses much humour, or the power to depict subtle niceties of character, the present book affords only faint indications, but it shows conclusively that he knows how to stir the deeper feelings of our nature.

A Thorn in his Side: a Novel. By Arnold Heath. 3 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)

Most of us can think of some among our friends who have the happy knack of being able to evolve a good story out of next to nothing. It is not that they exaggerate or even distort. Supply them with your own materials, tie them down rigorously to your conditions, fix the precise number of your heroes and heroines, and give them an outline as meagre or as elaborate as you like, and when your friend's turn comes to add his share to the fireside tales you will wonder how your simple little plot can possibly have been enjoyed by everybody so much. It is utterly impossible to explain even to oneself what this wonderful art is. One thing about it is at all events certain—it is no more to be created artificially than a poet is. Give the same materials to a man who does not possess the innate faculty, and give him a week to prepare—if they are meagre he will be wearisome, and if they are ample he will wriggle into a hopeless tangle. One need only have a fair experience in criticizing novels to be assured of this. We confidently believe that from the first work of any novelist it is possible to predict with certainty whether nature has fitted him for the vocation or not. It may be a failure in other respects, a failure in a dozen respects; but the chances are that practice will improve in all respects except this one—ability to tell a story well. If he cannot do that, he had best give up the attempt at once.

We have said all this because it is the only way we can think of to explain to our readers why Mr. Heath's book cannot be praised. He does not know how to tell a good story when he has got one. He has devised a capital plot,—no man need have a better: ingenious and elaborate, sensational in the extreme, yet not too improbable, and exceedingly interesting. A mere outline of it would warrant one in expecting a first-rate romance. And yet, when the author settles down to the task of filling it up, he only succeeds in spoiling all. Like a clever chamber-lawyer, who can sift and arrange his facts with methodical clearness, and when he gets into Court can no more deal with them than the obtusest tyro behind him, Mr. Heath breaks down almost as soon as he finds himself inside the binding of his three volumes. From that moment all is clumsiness and jerkiness and jog-trot, till at last the book winds up with a series of happy catastrophes which can only be compared to a hop, skip, and jump, or a transformation-scene in a pantomime. The utmost, therefore, that we are able to say for it is, that it is a lamentable waste of very good

stuff, which in these days, when the plot is half the battle, makes one regret that the author could not have induced himself to hand it over to somebody competent to handle it worthily.

The thorn in the side of Mr. Howard, cotton-spinner, of Irton, is a clever, relentless married woman, Ellen Dobson by name, and a she-devil by nature, whom in his youthful, college days he has ruined and abandoned, and by whom he has had a son. His wife also has borne him a son, only a year or two younger, and when the story opens young William Howard is living with his parents, and young William Dobson with his mother. In some strange whim Mr. Howard has had his boy vaccinated in a peculiar way; and in the hope of assisting her deep-set schemes of future vengeance Ellen Dobson, who has somehow learnt this fact, has her child too vaccinated in precisely the same fashion. One day young Howard disappears from his home, and for many years all search for him is fruitless. At length an old friend of the family, chatting with the still disconsolate parent over an after-dinner cigar, confides to him that years ago he adopted a strange child, of whose parentage he knew nothing, and who has ever since been reared by him as his own; and one coincidence turning up after another Mr. Howard inquires about the vaccination spots, and claims his long-lost son, who is thereupon transferred to his paternal home and duly installed in the cotton-mill under the name of William Howard. Time rolls on, with a crowd of minor incidents all good in their way, all worth telling, and, if they were only well told, worth reading. Ellen Dobson's husband is found murdered, with old Mr. Howard's garden-knife by his side. Young Dobson, who has by this time raised himself to a successful position at the Bar, prosecutes the supposed murderer, and he is found guilty and sentenced to death; when just before it is too late Ellen Dobson on her death-bed confesses that she is the culprit, that the pseudo-Dobson is really Howard, and vice versa, and of course all ends like a fairy-tale, with marriages and beatitudes *ad nauseam*.

This is the barest possible outline of a tale which is, as we have said, most ingeniously constructed and most wretchedly told. In two other ways, moreover, Mr. Heath fails. There is a pitiable want of power and finish in every one of his characters without exception; and he is unfamiliar with a good deal that he tries to portray. No writer, for example, and especially a very young one, should venture to give minute detail of the proceedings of a law-court unless he has either thoroughly mastered the subject or has submitted his ideas to competent revision. One half-hour with any practising barrister would have prevented two or three ludicrous blunders. Nor is this the only instance in which Mr. Heath shows the danger, with "a little learning," of rushing into print.

Two words of well-merited commendation before we lay the book aside. When, a little more than a year ago, we noticed the author's first and only other novel, 'Edith's Marriage,' we were obliged to express ourselves far from sanguine as to his chances of ever achieving much success. We have had to say the same to-day. But in two ways he has acted wisely, and well:—in waiting so long before he made his second attempt, and in successfully avoiding all those very serious faults which we then had occasion to point out. We remember calling special attention to his grammar, his punctuation, and his love of slang. On all three points he has, like a sensible young man, been modest enough to take our hints, and has gallantly conquered his besetting sins.

English Photographs. By an American. (Tinsley Brothers).

ENGLISH travellers have so long been lecturing other people on the art of being practical, that this work will prove humiliating to our national pride. The American tells us that our steamers are a quarter of a century behind the age; our railways are almost as bad; many of our institutions are simply ludicrous, the city of London in particular being like Papal Rome planted in the centre of Manchester; our hotels are miserable; our daily newspapers do not know the meaning of news or the existence of telegraph wires; our fires either roast us or leave us shivering; and our statesmen, though they speak well, are few, verbose, and bombastic. As we go through each separate item, we must allow that the arguments are honest and outspoken. Of course, we do not agree with them. The American will never expect that. Neither his dedication to Mr. Dickens, nor his appreciation of the honour of having appeared in a magazine edited by Mr. Yates, can quite reconcile us to his attacks on so many of our national glories. But, at least, he saves himself from the *tu quoque*. If he compares us with America, it is with American defects as well as with American merits. He allows us a pre-eminence in some things. Our mutton-chops are unique; our fish is perfection. London cabs are certainly better than those of New York. The English railways expose their engine-drivers, and do not provide sleeping-cars; but they never run along open roads and through public streets, nor do they shake their passengers to pieces. Allowances of this kind are made throughout, and will ensure the American a fair hearing on both sides of the Atlantic. Had he confined himself to blaming, he would hardly have been read in England. Had he always praised us at the expense of his own country, his fate would have been still more terrible. As it is, half his book may be disbelieved here, and the other half in America; but the praise of our mutton-chops will be welcomed in Fleet Street, and the account of our hotels will make glad the heart of Broadway.

Perhaps the most remarkable feature of the book, and the one that will meet with most general disapprobation, is the protest against canvas-back ducks. But here we must leave the American to fight it out with his countrymen. We may more fairly object to the statement that the London season is made to last through the summer, merely because "it has always been so." The American forgets that the upper classes remain in the country during the winter for the sake of the field-sports, which he admits to be unrivalled, and that Parliament sits till the end of July or the 12th of August. Here is reason enough for the present arrangement; but in olden days this was not so much the case. First of all, the business transacted by Parliament is much greater than it was. The bulk of the volume of Statutes for the year 1867 vastly exceeds that of any earlier years. Then, the meeting of Parliament seems to grow later every year. Now that the House sits at night instead of in the morning, as it did down to the time of Charles the Second, the speeches are longer and more animated. The American admits this when he comes to describe our orators. Mr. Bright he compares to Wendell Phillips. Mr. Lowe's style of oratory, he says, is rather American than English. "Mr. Gladstone," we are sorry to hear, "speaks with great clearness and earnestness; but his manner lacks variety and his voice modulation. Besides, he is remarkably verbose. In the graces of his oratory and the classic coldness of his style, he resembles the late Edward Everett; but his

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As for Mr. never since him, and succeeded. It is not able to compare Mr. I after. This York has just compliment. With the last but worst kind that the imitation paring that allows us that one b our news account of two days papers.

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reputation as an orator seems to me exaggerated." As for Mr. Disraeli, he is often bombastic, and never sincere; but his opponents are afraid of him, and he is popular because he has succeeded. It is significant that the American is not able to find any one to whom he can compare Mr. Disraeli. As a rule, either for praise or blame, resemblances are carefully sought after. Thus, we learn that the city of New York has paid the city of London the doubtful compliment of imitating its municipal government. When we hear that London is "one of the last and most formidable citadels of the worst kind of Conservatism," we can understand that the American is more opposed to the imitation than to the original. Again, in comparing the English and American press, he allows us a superiority in every point but one, that one being enterprise. We do not telegraph our news. The papers in New York had an account of the opening of the Paris Exhibition two days before it appeared in the London papers. The coronation of the Emperor of Austria as King of Hungary, the canonization of saints at Rome, were "cabled" to New York, just as the Washington news is "wired" to the same place, while the Paris correspondence of the *Times* comes by the mail. "Less than the amount now paid in large salaries to Paris letter-writers," adds the American, "would give the English papers all the news and gossip of the French capital telegraphically, and in time for the next morning's issue." We are afraid that our feeble minds recoil from the vision of gossip by submarine telegraph. It might corrupt the morals of the Nereids.

It is well, however, that newspaper conductors, railway companies, hotel-keepers and the public at large should know what the Americans think of our manners and customs. They cannot have a more impartial critic than the writer of this book; and they will profit by his remarks, even if they do not follow his guidance.

Horsham: its History and Antiquities. With Illustrations. (Macintosh.)

All fair attempts to preserve records of county history deserve encouragement. This modest book is one of them. It goes very far back and comes very late down. One cannot but respect a place which contrived to keep a foundation when the Weald of Kent gradually sank, and which also ranks as one of the oldest representative boroughs in England—first sending to Parliament and paying wages to its delegates in 1295. In Church matters Horsham is not much distinguished. Between 1405 and 1862 no ordinations were held in the church there by the bishops of the diocese of Chichester. The hardest work which some of the old prelates had to accomplish was in constraining the nuns located in Horsham to keep a decent silence. Their *cavet* was as lively as that of the sisterhood which potted *Vert-vert*. The dioceses, however, were mostly very clever people. The author speaks of a Bishop Praty (1438–45), who was an active overseer, and who "never slept two nights in the same place, excepting on Sunday"; in which feat, we venture to say, he has not been matched by any other bishop—nay, not by the Lord Primate himself.

For the manufacture of those English arrows, so terrible to the enemies of England, Horsham was once as famous as Ripon for its rowels. These Sussex men, too, were hard-fighting men in all times, but with now and then an individual exception. When, for instance, this part of the county was raised in behalf of what was called "King and Parliament," we are told by a Horsham contemporary that "as soon as the

drums beat, Capt. Sheppard felt himself not well; his belly akt, as if he feared that the Egyptians would make a drum of it, and he thought but to go to Lewes for some physick." He could not have gone even that distance in those days without difficulty. As late as the reign of George the Second, the Sussex roads impeded the progress of the Judges, and whoever wanted to get to London on wheels had to go by Canterbury. But Horsham people were then home-keeping people, and attended to home affairs. In the seventeenth century they chatted over their ale, or got shaved or bled, perhaps both, at Pyke's, the barber-surgeon. The vicarage-house must have been the liveliest house in the parish; for early in the following century is recorded the death of the vicar's wife, Katherine Reynell, "who died in childbed of her one-and-twentieth child"; beneath which monumental record is inscribed this rhymed reflection:—

Hard fate of mothers,
Who receive their death
By those to whom
They kindly gave their breath:

—which is a very pleasant way of dignifying this domestic transaction. In a similar case once, an epitaph-maker wrote, "Not always Practyse maketh Purfect." It is satisfactory to find that where one of the original divine injunctions is so strictly obeyed, there is good school provision for the numerous young people. Richard Collyer, more than three centuries ago, left an endowed school for this purpose, with means to furnish 10*l.* a year to the chief master. It is not long ago that the Mercers' Company, too faithful to the letter of their trust, and continuing to pay the 10*l.*, as directed, were compelled, in consideration of the altered value of money and their increased means of providing it from the bequeathed sources, to raise it to 16*l.* per annum. Poor Richard bargained that every scholar, on leaving school daily, should say, "God rest the souls of Richard Collyer and Katherine his wife!" There would be no great harm in wishing that those benevolent souls might be at peace; but words have altered as much as coin; and if a Horsham lad were to do this part of the bargain, the Horsham squires would think the world was come to an end. It is not to be supposed that these Horsham people were otherwise than bargain-keepers. They were as true as they were tender-hearted. This is evidenced by their jail records. The keeper of the prison kept a public-house next door, and his lambs were as much in one fold as the other. Scotch jailers used to lock up their captives at night, and go a mile or two away home to bed. But Horsham jail-birds had a merrier time of it. They were about the town all day, "doing errands." This was something like the fashion at Brest, where, till lately, the *fouets* with genteel professions and good prison characters were allowed to go abroad and pursue their callings. Not many years since there was one of that *bagné* who was a music-master, and gave lessons *en ville*. In token of his forced position, he wore a light iron ring just above his ankle, and if he ever taught a pupil "*Prendi, l' and ti rendo*," his "*anel*," or ring, probably felt a trifle heavier for the moment. The most amusing incident of the Horsham prisoners at large refers to a man who was sentenced to death; but as no time was mentioned for carrying out the sentence, the matter was overlooked, and the man went about the town daily, for years, carrying messages, returning to durance at night, and quite forgetful at last of what the past had threatened. Suddenly, the books being examined, it was discovered what penalty was really due to the poor fellow. He was looked upon as rather a shabby fellow for never having

mentioned the matter himself; but the authorities would not be unjust to him. He was, at the moment, somewhere "about town," and they sent for him to "come home and be hanged." Being an easy-minded person, he quietly did as he was bidden, and was hanged accordingly! There were many fellows in the neighbourhood who more richly deserved that end. Within remembrance of living men, the Sussex smugglers earned the rope by their deeds, and often avoided it by their wits. A couple of score of them would ride up the avenue to New Lodge, and sit down to the supper put out for them in the servants' hall as a sort of black mail. This was done at other houses too. There was a touch of honour among these fellows too. If they took horses out of a gentleman's stables and rode away on them, they always sent them back, well groomed, when the steeds were no longer wanted. Many a gentleman's cellar in Sussex profited by his winking at such proceedings. The smugglers' "run" contributed wherever with to pay for the *ride*. One might fancy that half the wild legends of the county had been invented by them to affright the folk from watching them, only that the tales are older than the smuggling times. Such is that of the horrible serpent which committed all sorts of devastations about 1614, and which monstrous beast several persons had seen; among others, as the last paragraph of the printed legend says, "the carrier of Horsham, who lieth at the White Horse, in Southwark,"—which he doubtless did, and that often.

For a disturbed locality, the tenacity with which some of the Sussex people have stuck to the soil is very remarkable. The farm called "Normans" (a name, like that of *Normandy* in other counties, indicating land held of the monks who were a branch of the Norman Abbey at Fécamp) "has been held by a family of the name of Mutton ever since the Conquest." It is added, that "the family have still in their possession the chest brought over the water by their ancestor, the Norman who first settled at Ruspur." If it only had the original deed of settlement in it, the story would be perfect. "Mutton" is a Norman name.

Of details like these, all more or less worth preserving, this agreeable volume is composed. The most trustworthy portion, perhaps, is the ecclesiastical history, when Puritanism was antagonistic to the old established incumbents. "Mr. Chatfield, a godly and painful preacher" on the Puritan side, had to battle for possession of the church with the ousted incumbent. Parliament supported the painful expounder, who had a prudent lady for wife. In troubled times, she naturally feared hard stones more than satirical verses; and when the town was in an uproar, it is recorded that "Mistress Chatfield advised her husband to withdraw, for fear they should do him more mischief than with songs." She was of as much use to her husband as the goddess to the hero when she saved him from disaster by carrying him off in a cloud.

The History of the Life and Times of Edward the Third. By William Longman. 2 vols. (Longmans & Co.)

The author of these volumes attracted some attention and won some praise, a few years ago, by a Lecture on the History of England which he delivered to the Chorleywood Association for the Improvement of the Labouring Classes. The subject closed with the reign of Edward the Second. The lecturer's attention, with an idea of resuming his useful office, became directed to the reign of the third Edward. "It appeared to me," says Mr. Longman, "so full of interest and importance, so abounding in picturesque

incidents, and so much neglected by historians as to be worthy of further study with a view to the composition of a work especially devoted to it." The result is now before us. Mr. Longman's history of a king who has been reckoned, perhaps too readily, among the most heroic of our monarchs, might not unaptly be called "a study." He does not extend our general knowledge of this reign of mingled quality, but rather sets before us in simple language and perspicuous arrangement all the knowledge he has himself acquired by steady examination into scattered details. He is a little open to the objection of occasionally going farther a-field than his readers may like to go with him, but he has the merit of not being dull; and the public has something to thank him for, over and above the promise conveyed in his title-page.

With regard to Edward himself, Mr. Longman pronounces a correct judgment when he says—"Manly courage and personal energy are the chief noble qualities that can be assigned to him. He had besides the questionable virtue of indomitable will." His courage and energy, however, brought little more profit to the people than a few glorious and unsubstantial memories. The people themselves, beginning to feel their power, seem to us to have been far more heroic than the king, the real calamities of whose reign have been forgotten in its brilliant but fruitless conquests. The gloom was quite as oppressive as the glory was exhilarating. The reign began while Edward's father and predecessor was being murdered. Its close, when all the glory was extinguished, left the crown to a weak grandchild, whose vicious rule was also to end by a violent death. Mr. Longman challenges admiration for the naval and military glories of Edward of Windsor, but they were purchased at a vast price. His absurd claim to the throne of France, as heir of a woman who, having no right to that throne, could not bequeath any, founded a national and not unreasonable hatred of England, on the part of France, which was made fiercer by the cruel wars carried on to support the unjust claim, and which would have subsided sooner than it did but for the foolish vanity of our later kings. Edward the Third addressed King Philip of France as "Comte de Valois," and Queen Victoria's grandfather, George the Third, was the last of our sovereigns who called himself "King of France," as well as of England and Ireland. At his coronation appeared for the last time the couple of masqueraders tricked out as Dukes of Normandy and of Aquitaine to represent lords of localities which owed him no allegiance.

The fact is, that Edward's conquests make us prouder of our countrymen, who achieved them against great odds, than of their King, for rather than by whom the brilliant achievement was accomplished. The record of Edward's victories usually inspires us with no small amount of sympathy for the vanquished. Haildon Hill and the winning of Berwick are, as martial deeds, matter for glorious chronicling. Nevertheless, we feel sorrow for the thousands of gentlemen and common folk among the Scots who fell in defence of their country and its freedom. Moreover, when the survivors recover Berwick, one cannot help mentally exclaiming, "Well won, Scot!"

The English King's ultimate successes in Scotland are at least in this much to be deplored—that they inspired him with the idea of invading France, for which his groundless claim to the throne was the pretext. In the very preparation for the first abortive hostilities, the English purse was almost exhausted. The national pulse was stirred by the naval victory off the mouth of the Sluys, and justly; for our

gallant fathers not only recovered the *Christopher*, which had been previously taken from them by the French, but they nearly annihilated the hostile fleet. It was a fair fight and a great victory. It is well but briefly described by Mr. Longman from Edward's own account, "which is the earliest despatch in existence containing an account of a naval victory." Crecy, the siege of Calais, Poictiers, all these are names as familiar as household words, but their echoes ring less gratefully on the ear when we remember that they represent an unjust cause on our side. To use an old figure, we may say that the cypress which shadowed the beaten foe, fighting in defence of their own hearths and their own king, was as glorious as the laurels which burthened the brows of the victors. What makes our victory at Nevil's Cross, in the county of Durham (whither the Scots had penetrated while Edward was subduing the French), of such untarnished glory but the circumstance that our noble fellows were repelling invaders? The idea that Queen Philippa was present on that field only lives with the romancers who reproduced it for effect. Long ago the accurate Lord Hailes overthrew Froissart on this question. Had Philippa been in that famous onslaught, certainly so gallant a court poet as Laurence Minot would not have forgotten it in his song celebrating the triumph. Just as we, with reason, feel pride at the day of Nevil's Cross do we rejoice in the successes of those stout-hearted Londoners by whom the Channel was swept of the Normans, who had commenced hostilities by landing at and plundering Winchelsea. Edward's hearty thrashing of the Spaniards on the waters is equally a thing to be proud of, as ideas of war and victory go. But we must confess that for the great victory of Navarrete, gained over the Spanish people by the Black Prince in behalf of that Peter the Cruel (a "monster," as Mr. Longman summarily describes him,) whom this people renounced, we are almost as much ashamed of it as of the massacre of valiant Frenchmen which the same Prince ordered at Limoges. Observing, by the way, that native Limousin scholars allow that the massacre has been greatly exaggerated, we may ask what came of all the famous victories, gained at the dearest cost a nation could pay, save cost of honour? Why, before King or Black Prince was dead, England retained nothing of what she had possessed over sea, except Calais, Bordeaux, Bayonne, and a few strongholds on the Dordogne. The old king himself was something like his kingdom. He who had sat in honour and splendour, with his wife Philippa beside him, on the throne, rested his white head in the bosom of a heartless concubine who stole from him, as he was dying or lay dead, the rings from his fingers and the jewels out of his caskets! And what an inheritance did this so-called heroic Edward leave to his country! A family who proved a ruinous legacy to the realm; more exhausting wars with France in the old bad quarrel, and those mortal Wars of the Roses at home in which all the English nobility of the old foundation may be said to have perished. In the end there was something like retribution; for the throne became the prize of Henry Tudor, grandson of the French Queen Katherine, whose country the English had unjustly claimed and cruelly devastated.

"A certain priest," as Mr. Longman quotes the "Contemporary Chronicle," was the sole representative of the Church at Edward's side in his dying hour. A harlot who was robbing the King, and a priest who was there by accident—these were all! The "Church" throughout the reign had been an object of dislike to

both sovereign and people; to the latter especially. They execrated the Italianized English clergy who acknowledged a sovereign at Rome before him who was crowned at Westminster, and whom the English laity recognized as their true king, too noble to be the vassal of a foreigner. Their own monarch taxed them heavily enough; but, as their own English Parliament had shown, the taxes levied by the Pope in England were five times as heavy as those levied by the King. That King did wisely and well in confiscating the revenues of the alien monasteries, particularly those of the Cluniac and Cistercian orders. Something of what had been seized was returned; but by what Edward took from them were the laity so much the less taxed for war expenses. That laity hailed with patriotic ecstasy the enacting by the Parliament of 1334 of the Statute of Provisions, whereby foreign priests were prohibited holding benefices in England, and the aggressive Papal power was otherwise abridged. King, Parliament, and people united in refusing the demand of the Pope for the payment of the annuity granted him by King John, and the popular spirit further manifested itself in the person of Wycliffe, who preached against Papal supremacy, transubstantiation, and the infallibility of the Church. The antagonism between Church and laity on the question of the administration of canon and common law ultimately led to the formation of Inns of Court, where the civil law could be studied free from the priestly control which prevailed at the university. Mr. Longman, treating of the constitutional struggle of 1370, remarks, "It would hardly be too much to say that from this period the modern political history of England begins." But this history dates nearer to the opening than the close of Edward's reign.

The popular sentiment was all for obedience to fairly-enacted laws—that is, laws to which the people had assented. These resolutely withheld the King when he sought to levy war imposts of his own authority. He descended to plead that it was a matter of necessity. The people stood upon the fact that there was no law for it; and Edward had to yield. In a hundred different ways the law at last defined where the King used peremptorily to declare or absolutely to decree. Therewith trade and manufactures took favourable impulse. Flemish weavers were encouraged to set up their looms; but "protection" was established also. None but the royal family could wear clothes made beyond sea; no English wool could be exported at all. Tom Blanket of Bristol made his name for ever famous by being the first to weave the woollen bed-furniture which bears that name. The English gold coin he received for the first assortment made by him and his industrious fellows was the first money of that precious metal coined in England. The law would not allow a single piece of it, not even a "farthing noble," to be carried out of England. When a merchant was leaving the country, he found at the port of issue a "royal exchanger," who gave him foreign gold for his English, subtracting a commission which the exchanger divided with his employer, the king. Hence we have the term, and the thing, *Royal Exchange*. One bad sign of the times lies in the fact that soldiers were paid three times as much as agricultural labourers, namely 6d. a day, equivalent to nearly as many shillings now. Moreover, labourers could only toil in their own counties. But exception was made in favour of the men of Craven, in Yorkshire, and the natives of Derbyshire, Lancashire and Staffordshire, and of the Welsh and Scottish Marches, who had been accustomed

from time immemorial to roam over the land in quest of field labour.

If Edward had cared for the healthy condition of his people, or, knowing how to secure it, had given practical application to his knowledge, he would have been as great a benefactor to his people at large (who perished by thousands in visitations of the plague), as he showed himself a friend to scholars by sanctioning the founding of colleges. If he proved himself willing to please the nobility by establishing the order of the Garter, he also manifested his liking for free and fair discussion by setting over the Parliament its first Speaker, Sir Thomas Hungerford. His solemn renewal of *Magna Charta* is still more to his credit. Trial by jury, however, was not what it is now. When a man had to meet a charge the witnesses were the jury. They laid their heads together, compared notes, set down all they knew, and sent the offender to be tried by the Judge, according to their sworn depositions. The establishment of Justices of the Peace was of more benefit to the people than might now be thought from some modern samples of the class; and one other decided benefit is to be noted, namely, that pleas in French were now dropped; barristers pleaded in English, but the record of the matter was entered in Latin. In short, the due process of law was secured to every Englishman, and when we think of what was done in Edward's reign for the welfare of the people, we forget many shortcomings and many oppressions.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Words of Wellington. Collected from his Despatches, Letters, and Speeches, &c., by Edith Walford. (Low & Co.)

Rasselas, Prince of Abyssinia. By Samuel Johnson, LL.D., with an Introduction by the Rev. William West. (Low & Co.)

THESE are two new volumes of the 'Bayard Series.' Miss Walford's selection from the various utterances of the Duke of Wellington contains many characteristic touches. The Duke's account of his refusal to act as the executioner of Napoleon, brings out some of the finest features of his character. His suggestions about "reasonable charity," originally intended for India, have their lesson for the England of to-day. But Miss Walford has not always been duly careful in editing. Among the short maxims at the end she repeats some which have been published in the early part of the book. She gives two accounts of the Duke's meeting with Nelson which are inconsistent with each other. In the first, the Duke says he knew Nelson at once, and was surprised at the silliness of his opening conversation: in the second, he says he did not know Nelson, but was struck by the clearness and decision of his language.—We need only announce the fact that the Rev. William West has written an introduction to Dr. Johnson's *Rasselas*.

Pippins and Cheese. By Joseph Hatton. (Bradbury & Evans.)

MANY of these papers are too slight in texture to demand reprinting, and all of them would have been better for a revision. The story called 'The Memorial Window' is the longest piece in the book, as well as the most elaborate, but this too has the traces of the magazine about it. Perhaps the judgment of some of those editors who rejected Mr. Hatton's early papers was not altogether wrong, though the essay in which these youthful failures are chronicled is too good to share such a fate.

In Purple and Gold. By C. B. (Trübner & Co.) THIS is a delicious rhapsody, written by some one who has had an overdose of Shelley, and has never been inside the Divorce Court. The scene in court is, no doubt, the climax of absurdity, as the respondent and co-respondent are called upon to answer guilty or not guilty to the charge of desertion and adultery; and after "the prosecution" has said its say the jury return a verdict with one farthing damages. But the rest of the story is worthy of

this *dénouement*. The wife of a baronet is so deeply moved in her inmost soul by being made the subject of a picture, that she forsakes her husband and turns housemaid. The painter finds her in this capacity, and asks her to give him some sittings, not knowing, at the time when he asks her, that she has already given him a subject. When he discovers that his new model is his old one, of course he falls in love with her: the husband comes in, and finds them together; there is a suit in the Divorce Court, and the marriage is dissolved. As the whole course of the story is interspersed with quotations or adaptations from Shelley, and as the book is dedicated to the memory of "the divinest genius and the sweetest heart these latter days have known," the general effect is overpowering. It well that Shelley was not spared to read the work of his latest worshipper.

Wanderings in France and Switzerland. By the Rev. Fergus Ferguson, M.A., Glasgow. (Stock.) Mr. Ferguson's wanderings in France and Switzerland were just such wanderings as several thousands of his countrymen make as a matter of course in their autumnal holidays, without thinking it worth while to bore the public about their dinners and dealings in foreign parts. Having "failed somewhat in health," the Glasgow minister decided to try change of air and scene. So he made the run,—for which Mr. Cook provides voyagers by sea and land with a special sheet of tourists' tickets,—from Glasgow to Paris, via Newhaven and Dieppe; from Paris to Neufchâtel, and round to Paris via Geneva. The tourist is a consistent commonplace observer, and his book is a curious illustration of the way in which a fairly intelligent and educated person may magnify himself and his doings, until he imagines them of interest and importance to the world outside his own walls.

Practical Falconry: to which is added How I Became a Falconer. By Gage Earle Freeman, M.A. (Cox.)

Mr. Gage Earle Freeman—better known to the readers of a sporting paper by the name of "Peregrine"—has produced a short treatise on a very alluring and delightful sport, which we cordially commend to the notice of persons with time and inclination to make trial of one of our ancestors' favourite pastimes. "I had the thing born in me, I believe," says the author, recalling his first unskilful attempts at falconry, "for I cannot remember that I read any books on hawking when I was at school; and yet it was then that I was determined, if possible, to train a hawk to fly birds. I had, however, read the 'Swiss Family Robinson,' and thought Fritz a very clever fellow to train the Malabar eagle as he did, though I now know that he did so in a perfectly impossible way. I have not the most feeble notion what is meant by a Malabar eagle, but the flight with the flamingoes must have been a glorious one indeed. I remember the account of it lighted the tinder hidden somewhere in my heart, and it has certainly blazed away since with more than a sufficient flame. My first essay was with a kestrel, which I believed (in common with a good many others, I fancy) to be a sparrow-hawk. I hooded him, poor fellow, with a black velvet hood, manufactured, to my order, by my mother's maid. This hood was little more than a bag tightened by a piece of tape, and it made the bird's eyes water, for it hung upon them. I did not know at that time that hoods must be stiff, and made upon a block. The kestrel disappointed me very much, for he was frightened out of his wits at a live starling, and would not always kill a sparrow. He got tame, it is true; but though I sat up with him surreptitiously, night after night, till I was dreadfully fagged, in order to keep him awake—as I had heard from my friends, and from some book I at this time got sight of, I ought to do—he flew away in the most natural manner the first time I gave him his liberty." The rest of the personal narrative is in the same vein of humour, and comprises a good deal of noteworthy information.

Nelson's School Series.—History of the Nineteenth Century. For Schools. By William Francis Collier, LL.D. (Nelson & Sons.)

Of the doings of statesmen, writers, missionaries,

travellers, and mechanical inventors in these later days, Dr. Collier has gathered some particulars into a little volume designed for use in schools. Attempts to convey a great deal of information on various subjects in a small space are usually futile performances; and the Doctor has not gathered his data from the most trustworthy sources of information. After all that has been said about the history of the locomotive, we are surprised to find a literary schoolmaster reproducing erroneous statements which their originator has withdrawn from the more recent editions of his widely-circulated pages. "Turn," writes the author in a sensational style that is new in class-books for pedagogues, "to a tale of the present time, and you find the forger fleeing from justice, or the parent hastening to his dying child by the express train, which shrieks and rattles along the iron road at the rate of fifty miles an hour. To whom is this change—one of the most momentous of our century—mainly due, but to George Stephenson, originally a herd-boy, and afterwards the fireman to the engine of a coal-mine? Born at Wylam, in the shire of Northumberland, George grew up in the poor cabin of his father, &c. . . . His success in repairing an engine at Killingworth raised him in position, and turned his genius more ardently towards invention. The great difficulty, which he had to surmount in the construction of the locomotive, was the formation of a wheel which, when driven by steam, would grasp the rail instead of slipping round." George Stephenson never surmounted this obstacle, for the very sufficient reason that he never encountered it. The difficulty about which our schoolmaster is vaguely thinking was a very different source of perplexity; the difficulty, in fact, which the engine-wrights of sixty years since experienced in discovering that the most common of all wheels, a smooth iron wheel, passing along a smooth rail, would produce the measure of adhesion requisite for locomotive traction. When Mr. Hedley had demonstrated that the smooth wheel would grasp the smooth rail with sufficient adhesive force, and had, moreover, constructed, at Wylam, a locomotive which took the place of animal power on the Wylam tramway, George Stephenson copied the Wylam invention. In the whole history of mechanical science there is nothing more certain than that George Stephenson had no part whatever in the invention of the steam locomotive.

We have on our table—*Natal Sermons: Second Series of Discourses preached in the Cathedral Church of St. Peter's, Maritzburg, by the Right Rev. William Colenso, D.D., Bishop of Natal (Trübner),—Church Reform: No more Lord Bishops, by Lay Church (Stanford),—A Statement on Confession, made by request, in the Church of St. John Baptist, Kidderminster, on Sunday, Nov. 15, 1868. By the Rev. C. N. Gray (Rivington),—The Church in Ireland: a Second Chapter of Contemporary History, by Thomas Andrews, M.D. (Longmans),—The Church's Creed or the Crown's Creed? a Letter to the Most Rev. Archbishop Manning, by Edmund S. Foulkes, B.D., Eighth edition (Hayes),—The York Diocesan Calendar, Clergy List, and Church Almanack, 1869 (Parker),—The Portuary Kalendar, 1869 (Parker),—Parker's Church Calendar and General Almanack for 1869 (Parker),—The Protestant Dissenters' Almanack and Political Annual for 1869, with which is incorporated The Reformer's Year Book (Freeman),—The Educational Calendar and Scholastic Year Book for 1869 (Simpkin),—The Year Book of Photography and Photographic News Almanack for 1869; edited by G. Wharton Simpson, M.A. (Piper),—Discussions in Europe as to Academic Teaching; being the Inaugural Lecture of James McCosh, LL.D., President of Princeton College, New Jersey, U.S. (Macmillan),—Address to the Students of St. George's Hospital on the Opening of the New School, October 1, 1868, by Henry W. Acland (Macmillan),—Life in a Lunatic Asylum: an Autobiographical Sketch, by John Weston, Second Edition (Houlston),—The Uses to which Female Schools of Art may be applied: an Essay to which the first prize was awarded on November 21, 1868, by E. Toumlin Smith (Taylor),—Florula Discoana: Contribution to the Phyto-Geography of Greenland, within the Parallels of 68° and 70°*

North Latitude, by Robert Brown (Neill).—*Gull's Organology*, by T. Symes Prideaux (Reprinted from the *Anthropological Review* for January, 1869).—*The Arabic Language*: a Lecture given on Dec. 3, 1868, by Thomas Cheshire, M.A. (Macmillan); and *Invention of the Electric Telegraph*: the charge against Sir Charles Wheatstone of "tampering with the press," as evidenced by a letter of the Editor of the *Quarterly Review* in 1855; reprinted from the *Scientific Review* (Simpkin).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Ainslie's *Smoking Fires*, their Cause and Cure, cr. 8vo. 3/- cl. Bacon's *Advancement of Learning*, ed. by Wright, 12mo. 4/- cl. Beigel's *Human Hair*, its Structure, Diseases, &c., 12mo. 2/- bds. Bell's *Book of Character and Writings*, 12mo. 3/- cl. Bennett's *Physiology*, 12mo. 3/- cl. Black's *Spa Guide to Cheltenham*, 12mo. 1/- swd. Bowden's *Naturalist in Norway*, cr. 8vo. 10/- cl. Braudwood on *Pyema or Suppurative Fever*, Svo. 10/- cl. Braxton's *Practical Treatise on Midwifery*, Fol. 2, 1868, 12mo. 2/- Chromolithograph. Vol. 1, 12mo. roy. 8vo. 12/- cl. Churchman's *Shilling Magazine*, ed. by Baynes, Vol. 4, Svo. 7/- cl. Clergy List, 1869, 8vo. 6/- cl. Colonial Office List, 1869, 8vo. 6/- cl. Davidson's *Right of Way* in their Right Places, fol. 1/ cl. Himp. Davison's *Practical Guide to Water*, 12mo. 1/- cl. Doyle's *Lectures before the University of Oxford*, cr. 8vo. 3/- cl. Dürer's *Humiliation and Exaltation of Our Redeemer*, 16mo. 1/- Eadie's *Commentary on St. Paul's Epistle to the Galatians*, 10/- cl. Edmund's *Practical Guide to the Law*, 12mo. 3/- cl. Foreign Office List, 1869, 8vo. 5/- cl. Foxe's *Book of Martyrs*, Preface by Bp. of Carlisle, 12mo. 1/- cl. Gambler's *Last Throw*, by Author of "On the Line," 12mo. 1/- swd. Gaskell, the City of the Simple, cr. 8vo. 6/- bds. Gilpin's *Letters Borgia*, Princess of Ferrara, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 21/- Gonbald's *Cronaca*, 16mo. 1/- swd. Graham on *Mystification*, 3/- cl. Harley's Old *Geometric Neurosis*, 8vo. 12/- cl. Harvey's *Dr. J. H. Memoir*, 8vo. 12/- cl. Hodson's *Modern Almanac*, 12mo. 1/- cl. Illustrated London News, Vol. 2, 1868, fol. 18/- cl. Laxton's *Tables of Workmen's Wages*, 4to. 2/- swd. Leighton's Works, by West, Vol. 2, 8vo. 15/- cl. Lewis's *Law of Apportionment*, 12mo. 5/- cl. Macmillan's *Supplement to the Tables*, 1868, 8vo. 1/- swd. Manchester's *Almanac*, 12mo. 1/- cl. Martin's *Lord's Supper in its Scriptural Aspects*, 8vo. 6/- cl. Mayor's *Greek for Beginners*, 12mo. 4/- cl. Maxwell's *First Lessons in Geography*, 16mo. 1/- cl. Moore's *Practical Guide to the Law*, 8vo. 2/- cl. Mothers' *Text-Book*, 16mo. 1/- cl. Nonpareil Victoria Ingoldsby, fol. 2/- cl. Perrier's *Mea Culpa*, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 21/- cl. Polden's *Adventures of Victor Bandy*, cr. 8vo. 6/- cl. Russell's *Advantages of Poor Bandy*, cr. 8vo. 6/- cl. Scheffer's *Ocular Defects*, tr. by Carter, cr. 8vo. 7/- cl. Sinker's *Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs*, cr. 8vo. 7/- cl. Skyring's *Builders' Prices*, 12mo. 4/- cl. Smith's *Practical Guide to Perfumery*, 8vo. 5/- cl. Stafford's *Life of the Blessed Virgin*, 12mo. 10/- cl. Stowe's *Minister's Wooing*, 12mo. 1/- swd. Sunday Library for Household Reading, 1868, 4 vols. 21/- in box. Vandervell's *System of Figure-Skating*, 12mo. 6/- cl. Thomas's *Mystery*, Hints on the Songs of Songs, 12mo. 3/- cl. Ton Thun's *Practical Guide to the Law*, 12mo. 1/- cl. Trevor's *Doctrine of the Sacrament*, &c. of the Eucharist, 12mo. 5/- cl. Vicker's *Tinker's Easop and his Little Lessons*, cr. 8vo. 5/- cl. Waddington's *Congregational History*, 8vo. 10/- cl. Wall's *Police List*, 1869, 8vo. 4/- cl. Winchester Diocesan Calendar, 1869, cr. 8vo. 1/- swd. Windle's *Greater than Solomon*, Lectures, 16mo. 5/- cl. Witching Time of Night, —Social Topics, 12mo. 5/- cl. Woolmer's *First Lessons in Ancient History*, 18mo. 1/- swd. Yates's *Rock Head*, A Novel, cr. 8vo. 6/- cl.

SECRET DESPATCHES FROM THE COURT OF QUEEN MARY.

Rolls House, Feb. 3, 1869.

DURING my official inspection, in the year 1865, of the Archives at Venice, made by the direction of the Master of the Rolls, my attention was called by Mr. Rawdon Brown, who is employed in compiling a calendar of Venetian papers relating to the history of this country, to a volume containing the despatches of Michiel, the Venetian ambassador at the Court of Queen Mary. These despatches appeared to me to be of such an important character, so far as I was then able to judge of them, that I ventured to call the attention of the Master of the Rolls specially to the subject in my Report, published by order of the Treasury in the year 1866. I take the liberty of sending you an extract from the Report in question:—

"Preserved in the Archives of the Frari is a volume containing the despatches of Michiel, the Venetian ambassador at the Court of Queen Mary. Of these, about one sixth part is written in a cipher that has hitherto baffled the skill of every one who has attempted to explain it. Several of these letters are only partially written in these secret characters; the remaining portion is in the ordinary writing of the period. The context shows that many of the secret passages evidently relate to the release of the Earl of Devonshire from the Tower, and of the Princess Elizabeth from Woodstock. I should recommend that copies or photographs of these letters be sent to England, in order that steps may be instantly taken to decipher them, which will, in all probability, throw light on the events of the reign of Queen Mary. That they are matters of great

secrecy may be inferred from the fact that the despatches in cipher of the Venetian ambassador from England are of rare occurrence."

Lord Romilly adopted my suggestion. Photographs of the despatches, made by Ponti, of Venice, were sent to the Public Record Office, and have been shown by me to various scholars, but without any successful result. I am happy to announce that I have received this morning from Mr. Rawdon Brown a letter stating that, among discoveries lately made at Venice, part of the missing correspondence of Giacomo Soranzo, ambassador in London in 1553, has just been discovered. These letters are in cipher throughout, and they contain an inclosure of a contemporary decipher, describing Soranzo's introduction to Queen Mary. In consequence of the aid afforded by this decipher, Signor Luigi Pasini, of the Library of the Frari, has been enabled to compile the long-sought-for key of the ciphered despatches referred to in my Report. Mr. Rawdon Brown has communicated to me a specimen of Pasini's labours, and I hope to be in a condition within a few days to submit to such of your readers as feel interested in these matters, Pasini's decipher of these important documents. I think English readers have reason to be grateful to Signor Pasini for his skill, ingenuity and patience in accomplishing this difficult task.

Your readers may possibly be aware that a German scholar, of the name of Friedmann, professes to have made a similar discovery, but he has not yet communicated to the public the results of his labours or the method by which he arrived at them so fully as could be desired. It is due, however, to Mr. Friedmann, to say that an article appeared in *Macmillan's Magazine* about three months ago, in which he promises to publish his own decipher of the Michiel Despatches. Should it be shown that Mr. Friedmann has succeeded in deciphering the whole of these documents without the help thus happily afforded to Signor Pasini, he will deserve the greatest praise for his perseverance and ingenuity; and it will be curious to compare the results of two such able decipherers, working by separate and independent methods.

T. DUFFY HARDY.

MANUFACTURE OF NEW BOOKS.

192, Piccadilly, Feb. 2, 1869.

Mr. Arnold J. Cooley in a letter to the *Athenæum* complains that his name has been improperly placed to the titles of two books of which he suppresses the names, but refers to page 796 of the *Athenæum*. As on that page only two books are announced with Mr. Cooley's name, I am bound to believe that he refers to "The Toilet in Ancient and Modern Times," and "Instructions, &c., in the Use of Perfumes and Cosmetics," published by me. In answer to his charge I will content myself by placing the exact facts of the case before you, and sending you copies of the works in question to enable you to judge whether I have either ill-used Mr. Cooley or deceived the public.

Mr. Cooley agreed to write and I agreed to publish a work on "The Toilet and Cosmetic Arts," which was to consist of a certain number of sheets sufficient to make a book to sell to the public at 5s. For this he was to be paid a fixed price. Instead of waiting, as I should have done, till he had completed the manuscript, I commenced printing the work on receipt of the first batch of copy, and kept on printing as he sent in manuscript till I found to my annoyance that the work was greatly exceeding my original calculations. I had, however, no alternative but to go on. I did go on, completed the printing, and paid Mr. Cooley not only the agreed price, but a sum beyond that as a remuneration for his extra labour, though I should have much preferred the work being confined to its original size.

In consequence of the great bulk of the book (804 pages) I was compelled to charge 10s. to the public, and even then to hope for my remuneration in the after-sale of the work as a standard book. I, therefore, knowing that it was a book which would last for years, stereotyped it, and I have now, for the convenience of those who wish to purchase the Historical portion separate from the "Practical Receipts," bound the book in two volumes which

can be had separately; but being printed from the stereotype plates, I have not made any alteration in the text.

I distinctly deny ever having announced them as new books. Their appearing on page 796 of the *Athenæum* arose, as Mr. Cooley well knew, if he had chosen to know, from the fact of their having been subscribed to the trade, just as every fresh issue of a standard book appears after it has been subscribed, though it may be the second, third, or fiftieth time of reprinting.

In conclusion, I may perhaps be allowed to assure Mr. Cooley, though my writing may not be so legible as his, I know how to spell "received" even when applied to an attempted stab in the dark.

ROBERT HARDWICKE.

THE HODGSON MSS.

Calcutta, January 4, 1869.

My attention has just been called to the inquiry by "A Master of Arts" in the *Athenæum* of the 21st ultimo, and I am very sorry that any "ambiguous passage" in my book should seem to have required so sharp a note. The case is simply this. During the past five years I have been collecting materials in various public offices in India and at home, and while thus engaged in Cannon Row my attention was directed, in the first instance if I remember rightly by Dr. F. Hall, to two trunks of papers which Mr. Hodgson had made over to the library, in order that they might be preserved and some day made use of. After examining them a correspondence passed between Mr. Hodgson and myself, and six months later the papers were, on his written request to the librarian, given over to my custody and sent to my house with a view to their being utilised. In this sense only they "passed into my hands." I on my part gave a formal receipt for them, and had I foreseen that the expression would be construed to mean a permanent transfer of the proprietary right, I should certainly have qualified it by "temporarily," or some such word. I now regret that I did not do so.

Since writing the above, your issue containing the Librarian's reply, has reached me. I can well understand the Librarian's irritation against the author of an "ambiguous passage" which had called forth so trenchant an assailant as the Master of Arts, and I all the more regret it. But when, passing from that subject, a subject in which I should gladly have borne the whole blame, if any blame had to be awarded, he speaks of my obligations to Mr. Hodgson as having been "inadequately and unappreciably testified," I must cry Hold! It is possible that the Librarian, regarding my dictionary from an English and scholarly point of view, thinks that Mr. Hodgson's materials have not been sufficiently incorporated in the dissertation; but I repeatedly state that my object was not a philological one, but the political one of rescuing the aboriginal tribes from their present unhappy state. I could, therefore, only use such of Mr. Hodgson's materials as directly furthered that purpose, and my last conversation with Mr. Hodgson before leaving England was upon a project of fully and exhaustively editing his works.

In my dissertation, when I refer to my own work I speak of it as the labour of a compiler and a utiliser; when I refer to Mr. Hodgson, I speak of him as the honoured source of almost the whole materials on which the dictionary is based. Thus, while pleading for the aboriginal tribes, I say (page 8)—"From time to time, isolated administrators, touched by their miseries and rude virtues, have laboured to acquire their languages and to understand their wants; but such knowledge has hitherto been the property of individuals, and has too often died with its possessors. Even when committed to paper, their researches remain buried in the Government archives, or form scattered and scarcely accessible monographs in the proceedings of learned societies. This book endeavours to render these perishable hoards of individuals the permanent property of the Government, and to place what have hitherto been matters of recondite scholarship at the disposal of every Indian missionary or administrator who wishes honestly to do his work."

Further on I say (p. 16)—"In a former work

I endeavoured strongly to individualize a single one of their tribes, and to place in bold relief its ethnical peculiarities, its social necessities, and political capabilities, for evil or for good. In this book I have hastily and imperfectly brought together materials out of which a comprehensive view of the whole may be constructed. Abler hands than mine will build the edifice; for to the Indian official, scholarship and literary graces are as nothing, excepting in so far as they enable him to understand and to interpret the people. In the Grammar now in progress, I hope to supply a more accurate basis upon which European philology may work; but these vocabularies, notwithstanding their defects, will henceforth enable every frontier administrator to hold direct communication with the races committed to his charge.

When I write of Mr. Hodgson (p. 31), it is in another strain: "The construction of a dictionary such as I now submit is a work of compilation rather than of authorship. The main body of the vocabularies are taken from lists printed in the *Journals* or *Proceedings* of the Asiatic Societies in Bengal and in England, in the Records of the Government of Bengal; all drawn up by or under the direction of Mr. B. H. Hodgson, late of the Bengal Civil Service, Chevalier of the Legion of Honour, &c. Mr. Hodgson also kindly placed at my disposal two large trunks of manuscripts, amassed during his long and honoured service in the East, and subsequently made over for safe keeping to the India Office. In some respects, therefore, I look upon myself as the editor of materials collected by him rather than as the author of an original work." I then go on accurately to state the sources from which I derived other assistance.

It is only by chance that I saw the two hostile letters above referred to; and had I not been in Calcutta, it is most likely that I should have remained under the dishonouring misconceptions to which they have given rise. It is scarcely generous to attack one who cannot answer till the damage of the attack has been done and left its impression. I worked not for fame, but simply to be of use to the people among whom my lot has been cast, and from whom I never looked for thanks. No one was more surprised than myself at the friendly reception my Annals received at home; and while I acquit both the Master of Arts and the Librarian of anything like personal motives, it was hardly kind, I think, at the very moment my second and more laborious work was going forth, to make an attack which must have prejudiced every one against it, and which these gentlemen must have known I could not answer till months had elapsed. Work like mine, done after long office-hours in the Tropics, or during the enforced leisure of sick leave, can only hope for a favourable reception at home if looked at with lenient eyes.

I apologize for using so much of your space, and thank you for the opportunity you have afforded me to answer for myself.

W. W. HUNTER.

NATURE-PRINTING.

5, Henrietta Street, Feb. 3, 1869.

In your notice of Mr. Baildon's Nature-Printed Ferns you speak of "the late" Mr. Fitch. We are happy to state that Mr. Fitch is still living, and is as actively engaged on our works as heretofore.

While lending our name as publishers to Mr. Baildon's work, in the production of which we have had no hand, we quite concur in your remarks. Whatever the beauties and advantages of nature-printing—and the latter we think are greatly overrated—they must be limited in their application to such plants or parts of plants as happen to be suitable to the process, and still further by the possibility of procuring perfect specimens of these, while a competent artist, by the examination of several imperfect specimens, can present us with the portrait of a perfect plant, and can so arrange it as to show the form and structure of every part. No nature-printing that we have yet seen has offered any inducement to us to forsake the talented pencil of him whom we may not inaptly style the Sir Joshua Reynolds of the vegetable kingdom.

L. REEVE AND CO.

OPHIR?

January 29, 1869.

SOME years ago there appeared in, I think, *Notes and Queries* an account of a trip to the ruins of an ancient city in Africa which has since been suggested to be the Ophir of Scripture; and it may be interesting to some of your readers to know such particulars of these ruins as could be ascertained by a traveller who did not actually reach the site himself.

Last June I was at the small town of Leydenberg, in the Transvaal or South African Republic, and showed a copy of the story to the Rev. — Nachtigal, of the Berlin Mission, whose station is there, and who, as the story told, was, with his fellow-missionary, Mr. Merenski, the author of the expedition; he smiled at many of its statements, such as incidents about baby elephants and ill-treated baboons following his party, but told me that the story was founded on fact, and gave me an outline of his journey. From his account, which I had confirmed entirely by one Kafir and in parts by others, I gather the following: the publicity of which may induce future travellers and portsmen to see further for themselves, and perhaps even leave the South African gold-fields for what would certainly be a most interesting trip.

From Leydenberg an explorer can take his bullock-waggon three days (say sixty miles) in a north-easterly direction, and must then, with the assistance of Kafirs, travel on foot through the rough country. Nine days' easy walking will bring him to the Limpopo, Oori or Bembe river (better known by the latter name); but before crossing this he will see the ruins of a small town, which, however, have been almost totally destroyed. Two or three days more will take him to another set of ruins of a similar nature. The missionaries passed over these without noticing more than that they had been ancient buildings, and could not have, nor is there any probability that they had, been the work of natives. Their object was to push on to the largest of the ruins known to be in that country, as the short winter season allowed them but a limited time. As, however, fever was very prevalent among the natives, and some of their own party were ill, when they were within sight of these ruins, on the north bank of the Kuisi or Sabia, a river running eastwards, they were compelled to return, but noticed that there were buildings of masonry and cut stonework, with one block like a tower and several other considerable portions standing. The name of these deserted ruins is Bunyaoi, situated in about lat. $20^{\circ} 50' S.$, long. $32^{\circ} E.$, and the people living near them are the Banyai or Quarri-quarri Kafirs; they show no hostility to the white man, unless he is a Dutch Boer, who could not safely venture into their country; and I think it is partly because the Boers, who are as a rule the pioneer hunters of South Africa, and partly because no African traveller happens to have struck this route, that no better accounts have been brought down, and that these ruins have not been examined. The natives are a mixture of different tribes, partaking both of the Basuto and the Zulu type and language,—the two chief divisions in South-Eastern Africa, and which appear to have started from a common origin further north, and migrated southward in two streams, divided by the great range of the Drakensberg, or Katlampa.

I am disposed to draw this latter conclusion from several points in their language, and one is almost inclined to believe that the real digamma of Greek philology is to be found among these savages on the east coast; in such words, for instance, as "to go": among the Amalunga tribe, or Knobnoses, *famba*; in the Suasi tribe, 200 miles south, *iamba*, almost *wamba*; further south, Zulu, *hamba*, more or less aspirated; and in Natal, *ambwa*.

To a stranger, the language of the Basutos, from the perpetual ringing of the letter "r," sounds peculiarly different from that of the Zulus, who cannot pronounce that letter; but a very short examination shows the close alliance between the two languages—the letter "r" being constantly substituted for the Zulu "l" in such words as (Zulu) *umilo*, "fire"; Basuto *umviro*, and often the change of a "t" into "r," as in (Zulu) *inyati*, "buffalo"; Basuto, *'nhari*. Both languages have

also the causative, reciprocal and other formations of the verb.

The existence of the ruins above referred to, or similar ones, has been known for many years, and they have been alluded to in several old travels, and apparently in connexion with the gold trade, but of course such accounts must be taken for what they are worth, as they contain many absurdities. In 'The Modern Part of an Universal History' (London, 1781), the most considerable gold-mines are placed in the district of Manica, the name of either the river Sabia or the Limpopo; and in 'A Collection of Voyages and Travels' (London, 1746), and several other similar works, is an account of a Portuguese journey in 1569, in which reference is made to ruins of "structures built with stone, lime and timber" being met with in different parts of the country, and in one account the name Afur is given as that of one set of ruins, or perhaps of the whole district; but I cannot ascertain whether this name existed there on the first discovery by the Portuguese, or whether they called it Afur because they wished it to be the real Ophir. From this coincidence, however (if it is one), and the name of the river Sabia (*unde Sheba*), combined with the recent discovery of large gold-fields in the same neighbourhood, some persons go so far as to conclude that the Biblical account is but a short history of Bunyaoi.

What are these ruins? Are they the remains of defensive buildings, or mercantile emporiums of a past civilization, or the works of some ancient religious order?

As this part of Africa is now being drawn into notice, and many are leaving England—some attracted by the prospects of gold, and others with the idea of a successful sporting or trading venture—it would be well if a traveller could be induced to make notes of, and compare such things as he may observe in, the customs and languages of these tribes, with a view to assisting ethnologists and philologists, rather than swell his published account into what is often little better than a butcher's diary.

J. D. R.

NOTES FROM SOUTHERN ITALY.

Naples, Jan. 29, 1869.

YESTERDAY I had the privilege of wandering through a Treasury of Art in a room which is not open to visitors. Here lie objects so beautiful and precious that they would of themselves form a valuable museum, but which under the old management were not arranged, and were even half hidden away. There are many articles of Byzantine art, crosses and episcopal crooks, and crucifixes, in which the eyes of our Saviour are represented as open, whilst the feet, not crossed, rest both on the *sous-pied*. Not to enumerate objects which make one's mouth water, I will speak more particularly of one which interested me as an Englishman. It is our "lost king." To explain myself, however, it is one of the Kings of Chess, which is missing from the well-known ivory set, I believe, in the British Museum. The carving is rude, perhaps of the eleventh century, and his Majesty, a podgy little man, sits embedded in his chair, which is of the old Gothic form, not high-backed, but cut round, so as completely to embrace the body. The expression of the face is that of age, as is the case with all works of an early period. On the royal head is a crown; the body dress or tunic fits close up to the neck; whilst over all is thrown a royal mantle which envelopes the whole body, and was intended to envelope the chair, the arms of which will peep through. From between the knees rises a pine, which may assist our antiquaries in determining the "belonging" of this curious piece. By the Directors of the Museum it is positively asserted to be the lost king of a set of chessmen in the British Museum: on what evidence I do not know, still it must be strong to justify so positive an assertion. Assuming it to be so, it will be of great importance to us to obtain it, and I could not help sounding the Directors on the subject. For themselves they were willing to yield it on a fair equivalent, subject of course to the approval of the Minister, if I mistake not, of Public Instruction. On my asking what would be considered a fair equivalent, there was some hesitation, when it was

constitution down to the reign of Edward the First.

Mr. Hyde Clarke is delivering a course of lectures on Comparative History, at the London Institution. The object is to treat the phenomena of history in their common relations so as to throw light on the events of the pre-historic periods and on the historical problems of the present day.

Messrs. Chapman & Hall have issued the first volume of a new edition of Mr. Carlyle's writings, —an edition which is to be well printed, neatly indexed, and completed in thirty volumes. The first volume contains 'Sartor Ræratus,' and contains a good portrait of Mr. Carlyle.

Mr. J. A. Langford is preparing a new edition of his 'Century of Birmingham Life,' which is to be published in monthly parts.

Baron Tauchnitz, of Leipzig, whose name and publications will be known to all our travelling friends, has published a small pamphlet on the project of a copyright law for the North-German Confederation. We gather from his pages that the proposed copyright is to last thirty years from the author's death. The Baron's chief suggestions are, that the copyright of German works should not be confined to the subjects of those States which form the Confederation, and that the Confederation should set an example to foreign countries in the matter of international copyright. These two proposals go beyond the ideas of legislators, to judge from the sections of the projected law which Baron Tauchnitz quotes, as well as from our own Acts on the subject. But the last decision of the House of Lords (*Routledge v. Low*) accords with Baron Tauchnitz's second suggestion, and makes it all the more valuable.

A committee, of which the Principal of Brighton College is the chairman, has been formed for the purpose of placing a memorial window in Trinity Chapel, Brighton, to the Rev. F. W. Robertson. The chapel being now in course of enlargement, an excellent opportunity presents itself. It is proposed that a painted window in medallions, representing Scripture incidents referred to in Mr. Robertson's discourses, be placed over the communion-table with a brass at the foot bearing this inscription: "To the glory of God, and in memory of Frederick W. Robertson, who preached in this chapel from 1847 to 1853."

An Antipodean banquet is to be held next week on a large scale, in the Great Hall of the Cannon Street Hotel, when the leading Australians will feast on meat and other provisions from their favoured lands, and attempt to demonstrate to some of the benighted Londoners the alleged juiciness and superiority of Australian beef and mutton, as preserved. Kangaroo is not mentioned.

During the recent vacation considerable alterations and improvements have been made in the great school-room at Westminster. The time-honoured "shell," which has given a name to forms at so many of our public schools has ceased to be, the space occupied by the semicircular recess, together with the ominously named "Rod-room" behind it, have been thrown into the school, and the whole roofed over at the same elevation. The timber roof has been continued, but in a less clumsy fashion; and new windows constructed in an appropriate style. The part of the work most interesting to archaeologists has been the clearing out of several of the Norman windows of the Dormitory of Edward the Confessor's Foundation, which occupied the site of the school-room, and the opening of several ancient doorways, one opening into Abbot Sittington's Tower. The rude masonry which blocked them up has been removed, and they stand forth nearly as perfect as they were 800 years since. It is curious to note that a portion of the shrine of Edward the Confessor retaining some of the original mosaic, and a richly carved fragment of the reredos of the Abbey were discovered during the progress of the repairs. The former will be replaced in its original position. The works at the Chapter House of Westminster are progressing favourably. The tracery is fixed in all the windows, and looks very striking in its grand simplicity. The flying buttresses are all re-

stored, and the stone-work is made good. The vaulting is awaiting the completion of the high-pitched roof which is to cover it. Turkish marble has been chiefly used for the internal work; but for outside mouldings and shafts a far superior and more durable material has been found in Derbyshire. The fresco paintings on the walls have been carefully covered over to preserve them from injury. The restoration of the Cloisters is going on, somewhat slowly, but surely, and with admirable fidelity. Mr. Scott is now employed in replacing the tracery of the windows of the North Walk, beneath the great buttresses of the Abbey. The South Walk continues in a deplorable condition.

Mr. Henry Huth has just printed, privately, fifty copies of a 'Narrative of the Journey of an Irish Gentleman through England in the year 1752.' It is a pleasant, lively account of the Cork narrator's trip to London and back, sketching his companions in his coach-rides, saying that our women were handsome but not vivacious, that the stage coaches had no windows to look out of, that the roads were awful, Miss Burrell at Vauxhall imitable, &c. The MS. was well worth putting into print. We suspect that it is by the same writer as the Additional MS., 27,951, lately added to the British Museum collection, though this latter, consisting of four little rough note-books, is in the writer's own hand, while Mr. Huth's seems to be in that of a copier. The Museum MS. is called 'The Journal of an Irish Clergyman on his Visits to London in 1758-61-72'; and the first note-book in the packet begins with a visit to and description of Windsor and Eton. In London the writer met Sheridan and other persons of note.

Gold diggings in the north of Scotland will be a surprise to many persons; but there they are, in the shire of Sutherland, and with a number of diggers who are collecting alluvium from the borders of the Holmsdale river, and washing it in the stream. The quantity hitherto collected is not great, perhaps 2000. worth, but the quality is described as good, and the colour bright: and diggers who have worked in Australia are of opinion that when proper means are taken the yield will be something considerable. Are we about to witness a "rush" to the Sutherlandshire diggings? and shall we see the wild strath in which the gold lies buried, sprinkled with tents, and noisy with the eager labour and outcry of an excited population? That would indeed be a novelty on this side of the globe.

The Manchester people are already providing for the interior of their grand Town Hall, when built. A large subscription was made last year for a picture by Mr. G. E. Tuson of 'The Presentation to the Sultan in Buckingham Palace of the Mayor and Corporation of Manchester and the Cotton Supply Association.' This is now nearly finished. Another subscription is being raised for a Portrait of Mr. Heron, the first and present town clerk, which is to be entrusted to one of four leading artists.

Messrs. De La Rue & Co. have issued a whistle-marker, constructed in a simple manner, with a series of slides. It is called the "Cavendish," and of course does away with counters. It looks as if it would work well.

The distinction between the *zero* and the *ben trovato* made by the Italians is that of truth and good fictitious description. The stories of the two classes only differ in this, that the first often attain an improbability which the second dare not reach. The true stories of absent men cannot be exceeded. We know the man who has—more than once or twice—put on his spectacles to help him to look for them. We know the man who had forgotten the name of—say A, and the first time he met a man who knew it, burst out with "I have forgotten A's name; what is it?" We are inclined to believe, from the manner in which it first reached us, the anecdote of Sir Thomas Strange, the Indian judge, who found, on paying a visit, that his friend was not in, and that he had forgotten his own name. I'll call again; never mind my name.—Sir! master always likes to know the names of gentlemen who call.—Why, to tell the truth, I have forgotten my name.—That's

strange, Sir.—So it is, my man. You've hit it!—and he went away, leaving the servant quite in the dark. But we suppose the following anecdote of Robert Simson must be *ben trovato*; though the tradition is strong. He used to sit at his open window on the ground-floor, as deep in geometry as a Robert Simson ought to be. Here he would be accosted by a beggar: he would rouse himself, hear a few words of the story, make his donation, and dive. Some wags one day stopped a mendicant on his way to the window with "Now! do as we tell you and you will get something from that gentleman, and a shilling from us besides. He will ask who you are, and you will say Robert Simson, son of John Simson of Kirktonhill." The man did as he was told: Simson gave him a coin and dropped off. He soon roused himself and said, *Robert Simson! son of John Simson of Kirktonhill; why, that is myself! that man must be an imposter!* Lord Brougham gives this anecdote with less detail than in the version received by us.

A reader of a very old astronomical book was puzzled—and rather frightened—by finding that the moon went round the earth in something between four and five minutes. He had to ponder until he found out that the minute mentioned was the *minute of a year*. In the old sexagesimal division, the sixtieth part of anything was called its *minute*; the sixtieth part of the minute was called its *second*; and so on. Thus the minute of a year is a little more than six days: the minute of a mile upwards of 29 yards. The circumference of a circle, the diameter being 1, was often represented as $3^{\circ} 29' 44''$, &c. In 1551 a certain Maurice Bressius published his 'Metrice Astronomica,' in which sines are sexagesimally represented. His radius was 60° , and so his sine of $76^{\circ} 20'$ was $58^{\circ} 22' 57''$.

Brigham Young has had an attack of apoplexy, which has rallied from it.

Ehrenberg has communicated to the Academy of Sciences, Berlin, of which he is a member, a short notice of the specimens brought up from the sea-bottom by soundings during the North-German Polar Expedition of last season. The specimens are thirty-nine in number, collected from lat. 73° to 80° north—an area extending from the Bear Islands and beyond Spitzbergen to the coast of Greenland. Six of them were taken, it appears, between 80° and 81° , and in long. $13^{\circ}, 14^{\circ}, 15^{\circ}$, and 16° east from Greenwich. As regards depth, thirty-two of the specimens were brought up from less than 100 fathoms, four from 135 to 170 fathoms, two from 240 to 250 fathoms, and one from 300 fathoms. This latter was in lat. $76^{\circ} 36' N.$ and long. $15^{\circ} 52' E.$ These depths, though not great, have, as Prof. Ehrenberg remarks, the advantage of certainty, which cannot always be claimed for soundings at 1,000 or 2,000 fathoms. The scientific character and value of the specimens have yet to be made out, and for this they must undergo a rigorous cleansing from the tallow of the sounding-lead by which they were lifted. But after Ehrenberg has had them under his microscope, we shall not have long to wait for explicit information on these points; and further light will be thrown on the question, which, in his opinion, is the most important of all, namely, whether the six classes of microscopic creatures already described in 'Microgologie,' are found unmixed or mixed with other, hitherto unknown, forms within the Polar Circle? To obtain conclusive proofs of the relations of organic life in its minutest forms throughout the globe would be worth all the cost and labour bestowed in obtaining them. Moreover, according to the nature of the specimens brought up, whether fine or coarse, slimy or powdery, will, as is thought, be the evidence of streams, swirls, or quietness in the depths of the ocean. Should Mr. Petermann and his friends attempt another expedition in the coming summer, it is to be hoped they will rely more on the dredge than on the sounding-lead for specimens from the bottom. Taken in connexion with the results obtained by the expedition under Drs. Carpenter and Wyville Thomson (an interesting Report of which has been printed in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society*), a higher value attaches to the specimens brought home by the German ex-

plorers, and expectations of Ehrenberg's descriptions can hardly fail to be lively.

The SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—The WINTER EXHIBITION of SKETCHES and STUDIES by the MEMBERS is NOW OPEN, 5, Pall Mall East. Ten till Five.—Admission, 1s. Gas on dark days.

WILLIAM CALLOW, Secretary.

INSTITUTE of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS, 33, Pall Mall, WILL SHORTLY CLOSE. Exhibition of Sketches, &c.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. Daily from Nine till Six.

JAMES FAHEY, Secy.

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL WINTER EXHIBITION of PICTURES by BRITISH and FOREIGN ARTISTS is NOW OPEN at the French Gallery, 120, Pall Mall, from Half-past Nine till Half-past Five o'clock.—Admission, 1s. Lighted by gas.

GENERAL EXHIBITION of WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS, Dudley Gallery, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.—The EXHIBITION is OPEN daily, from 10 till 6.—Admittance, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. Gas at dusk.

GEORGE L. HALL, Hon. Secy.

M. MORBY'S COLLECTION of MODERN HIGH-CLASS PICTURES is ON VIEW at the Royal Exchange Fine Arts Gallery, 24, Cornhill. This Collection contains examples of Rosa Bonheur—Clarkson Stanfield, R.A.—Meissonier—Alma-Tadema—Félix—Frédéric—Léon—Jules—John—R.A.—Léon—R.A.—D. Roberts, R.A.—Britt, R.A.—Goodall, R.A.—Cooke, R.A.—Pickersgill, R.A.—Erskine Nicol, A.R.A.—Le Jeune, A.R.A.—Ansell, A.R.A.—Frost, A.R.A.—Pettie, A.R.A.—Yeames, A.R.A.—Dobson, A.R.A.—Cooper, A.R.A.—Gale—Mark—Liddell—George Smith—Linnell, sen.—Peter—Graves—Oakley—H. W. B. Barker—Exter. Also Drawings by Hunt, Cox, Birkin Foster, Duncan, Topham, F. Walker, E. Warren, &c.—Admission on presentation of address card.

SCIENCE

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Jan. 28.—General Sabine, President, in the chair.—The Marquis of Salisbury was elected a Fellow.—The following papers were read: 'Results of Researches on Luteine, and the Spectra of Yellow Organic Substances contained in Animals and Plants,' by Dr. Thudichum.—'On Hydrofluoric Acid,' 'On a Molecular Change in Iron Wire,' and 'On the Development of Electric Currents by Magnetism and Heat,' by Mr. G. Gore.

GEOLoGICAL.—Jan. 27.—J. G. Jeffreys, Esq., Treasurer, in the chair.—Mr. A. Lupton and Dr. G. Rogers were elected Fellows.—The following communications were read:—'Notes on Graptolites and allied Fossils occurring in Ireland,' and 'Notice of Plant-remains from beds interstratified with the Basalt in the county of Antrim,' by Mr. W. H. Baily.—'Remarks upon the Basalt Dykes of the Mainland of India opposite to the Islands of Bombay and Salsette,' by Mr. G. T. Clark.—'On Auriferous Rocks in South-eastern Africa,' by Dr. Sutherland.

SOCIETY of ANTIQUARIES.—Jan. 28.—J. Winter Jones, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Notice was given that the President had nominated the following gentlemen as Auditors for the year 1869:—B. Ferrey, Esq., Col. A. L. Fox, A. Nesbit, Esq., and W. Tite, Esq.—Mr. A. W. Franks exhibited fine bronze implements from Cameuz, and Mr. H. Westropp and Mr. A. Nesbit communicated papers on the material of the ancient Murrhine Vases: the former contending that they were made of fluor spar, the latter that the material was a kind of onyx. In this latter view Prof. Maskelyne, who addressed the meeting on the subject, expressed his concurrence. Mr. H. C. Coote read a paper, 'On an Agri-mensorial Area.'

ZOOLOGICAL.—Jan. 28.—J. Gould, Esq., in the chair.—A letter was read, addressed to the Secretary by Prof. Reinhardt, containing some remarks on *Potamocharus porcus* and *Pteronura Sandbachii* with reference to previous communications of Dr. Gray upon these subjects to the Society.—Dr. J. Murie exhibited and made remarks on some malformed hoof of cattle from the Falkland Islands.—Mr. Blyth exhibited and made some remarks upon a pair of horns of one of the new antelopes (*Strepsiceros imberbis*) described by him at the last meeting.—A communication was read from Prof. Owen 'On Dinornis,' forming the 14th part of his series of memoirs on this subject. The present paper related chiefly to the craniology of the genus, but contained also the description of a fossil cranium from the London clay of Sheppeney, in the collection of the Earl of Enniskillen, which Prof. Owen consi-

dered to present combinations of dinornithic and modern struthious characters, and which he characterized as belonging to a new genus and species of fossil birds, under the name *Dasornis Londinensis*.—A communication was read from Capt. T. Hutton, containing notes principally upon the habits of certain Indian mammals.—A communication was read from Mr. H. Pease, containing descriptions of the animals of certain genera of Auriculidae met with in the Sandwich Islands.—A communication was read from Mr. G. Nevill, containing notes on the land shells of the Seychelles.—Dr. J. Murie read a report on the skulls of the eared seals (*Otaria*), collected by Leconpte, the Society's keeper, in the Falklands, which were shown to belong to two species, *Otaria jubata* and *O. nigrescens*.—Mr. Kent exhibited and made remarks on a new British nudibranchiate mollusk, found in the Victoria Docks, which he proposed to call *Embletonia Grayii*.

CHEMICAL.—Jan. 21.—Dr. Warren De La Rue, President, in the chair.—The Secretary announced that at the next meeting a lecture would be delivered by Dr. Wallace 'On the Chemistry of Sugar Refining.'—The following papers were read: 'On the Chemical Composition of Canaibea Wax,' by Mr. N. S. Maskelyne,—'On the connexion between the Mechanical Qualities of Malleable Iron and Steel, and the amount of Phosphorus they contain,' by Dr. B. H. Paul.—A discussion followed the reading of this paper, in which Dr. Miller said he had found very unusual quantities of phosphorus even in samples of high class iron. The experiments proved that the presence of from two to three parts of phosphorus in 1,000 of iron was not so detrimental as was generally supposed.—In reply to the President, Prof. Miller said the phosphorus probably existed as phosphate. It was most certainly eliminated in the form of phosphate.—Dr. Price has yet to learn that 24 per cent. of phosphorus could be present in steel without injuring the metal. He believed the method by which the phosphorus was separated as phosphate of iron and then determined with magnesia was absolutely correct and less tedious than the molybdate method.—Mr. Forbes could not agree with Dr. Miller, that the amount of phosphorus in iron was underestimated. The molybdate process was thoroughly understood in Sweden, where they would not receive for making steel iron that contained 1 per cent. of phosphorus.

ETHNOLOGICAL.—Jan. 26.—Prof. Huxley, President, in the chair.—Capt. L. Brine, R.N., and Dr. J. Lamprey, were elected Members.—Col. L. Fox exhibited a remarkable Stone Armlet, found at Lukoga, on the Niger; and also a very fine bronze Spear-head, with its original shaft, believed to be of bog-oak, obtained from Loch Gur, co. Limerick.—Mr. W. H. Black exhibited a very curious collection of Chinese Coins and Medals, used as talismans and charms.—Mr. Hyde Clarke read a paper 'On the Proto-Ethic Condition of Asia Minor, the Chalybes, Idæi Dactyli, and their Relations with the Mythology of Ionia.' He defined four strata of population: 1, the Hellenes, or Greeks; 2, the Iberians; 3, the Amazons, connected with the present Lazians and Georgians, and thereby with the Tibeto-Caucasian group; and, 4, the Hill-Tribes, Chalybes, &c. He connected with the eastern Chalybes the other smelting and mining populations in the mountains of Asia Minor, historical and mythical, and pointed out their devotion to Cybele, the mother of the gods, of whom their representatives were in after ages the priests. He included the Idæi Dactyli, Corybantes, Curetes, Cabiri, Telchines, Cyclops of Asia Minor, Crete, Cyprus, Rhodes, Lemnos and Samothrace, and pointed to the possibility of their having extended into Europe. The Dactyli he derived, not from Mount Ida, but from the original colony between Ephesus and Magnesia, not Meandrum, south of the Maeander river. These mountains are now worked for iron by Gypsies, and are called in Turkish Besh Parmak, and in local Greek Pende Daktuloi, or Five Finders, from their five peaks.

INSTITUTION of CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Feb. 2.—C. H. Gregory, Esq., President, in the chair.—The following Candidates were elected: as Members—J. H. W. Buck, T. Dale, P. Greek, and H. J. Wyllie; as Associates—J. Bowden, A. M. Fowler, C. Hart, B. M. de Michele, J. Musgrave, E. W. Preston, A. L. Sacré, H. T. H. Siccamo, A. H. Strongtharm, and J. W. Wilson.—The Council had admitted Mr. J. P. Van der Meulen a student of the Institution.—The paper read was 'The Mauritius Railways—Midland Line,' by Mr. James R. Mosse.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—Feb. 1.—W. R. Grove, Esq., in the chair.—Messrs. E. Armitage, G. Bevington, F. Leighton, The Master of Lindsay, F. Nettlefold, F. J. Toulmin, R. O. White, W. E. Wilson, and P. Wright, were elected Members.

SOCIETY of ARTS.—Jan. 27.—G. Godwin, Esq., in the chair.—The paper read was: 'On Xylography, or Printing and Graining from the Natural Surfaces of Woods,' by Mr. W. Dean, sen.

Feb. 1.—'On Painting' (Cantor Lecture), by Mr. S. A. Hart.—Lecture I. 'On the History of Portrait Painting.'

ANTHROPOLOGICAL.—Feb. 2.—Dr. Beigel, V.P., in the chair.—Messrs. M. D. Conway, J. M. Moir, A. Moir, and V. J. Lane, were elected Fellows.—The following papers were read:—'Cleveland Gravehills,' by the Rev. J. C. Atkinson; 'Barrows at Cleatham,' by Mr. Edward Peacock; 'Flint Arrow-heads from Lake Erie and Northern California,' by the Rev. J. G. Wood, and 'A Kitchen-midden in the Island of Herm,' by Mr. J. W. Flower.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON. Society of Arts, 8.—'Practice of Portrait Painting,' Mr. Hart (Cantor Lecture).
- TUES. Geographical, 8.—'Sandstones in Gulf Stream,' Mr. Hart.
- 'The Gulf Stream,' Mr. Finlay.
- 'Confidence of the Mantaro and Apurimac, Peru,' Prof. Baird.
- 'Royal Institution, 3.—'Fine Art,' Prof. Westmacott.
- 'Ethnological, 8.—'Anniversary Ceremonies, Australia, &c.,' Dr. Hooper.
- 'Flukes from Cape of Good Hope,' Sir J. Lubbock.
- 'Cromlechs, &c.,' Mr. Westropp.
- 'Engineers, 8.—'Lagoons of the Shores of the Mediterranean,' Prof. Ansted.
- WED. Society of Arts, 8.
- 'Geology of Lower Carboniferous Rocks across Cheshire,' Mr. Hull; 'Red Chalk, Hunsstanton,' Rev. T. Wilshire; 'British Postglacial Mammalia,' Mr. Boyd Dawkins.
- 'Archaeological Association, 8.—MS. on Ludlow Church.
- Mr. Wright.
- Microscopical, 8.—'Anniversary.
- THURS. Royal Institution, 3.—'Involuntary Movements,' Dr. Foster.
- Mathematical, 8.—'Logarithmic Waves,' Prof. Sylvester;
- 'Cubic Curves of the Third Class,' Mr. Walker.
- Zoological, 8.—'Abysian Expedition Report,' Mr. Jesse; 'Solomon Islands Birds,' Mr. Schater; 'Asturina,' Messrs. Solater and Salvin; 'Rare Parrot, Sebaea,' Dr. Finsch.
- Royal, 8.
- FRI. Antiquaries, 8.
- SAT. Astronomical, 8.—'Anniversary.
- Royal Institution, 8.—'Coast Defences,' Col. Jervois.
- SAT. Royal Institution, 8.—'Hydrogen,' Dr. Odling.

FINE ARTS

GENERAL EXHIBITION of WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS.

Mr. E. Clifford's *Head of an Angel* (No. 19) is noteworthy for a certain amount of power both in painting and conceiving the large face in profile, with a flaming sword in the background; but the result is feverish in expression, and therefore insufficient to answer so ambitious an aim as that of the artist. Miss M. Fowler's *Landslip at Branscombe* (23)—a fine study of rent and fallen chalk, with curves of cliffs receding, and bays indented on a sandy shore—is noteworthy for the fine sense of atmospheric vastness it evinces and its cleverly-drawn coast-lines. The sea, with purple reflexions in clear green depths, is not a little hard, but by no means flat.—Among the few really poetical pictures here is Mr. W. Crane's painted day-dream of a student who lies at length upon the banks of a lake, and reading, sees the tall fair youths and white horses of his imagination pass in a long procession on the farther margin. Some defects of execution, as in the drawing of the prone figures of the reader and of the vision, might be pardoned for the sake of the rare spirit of the conception, which is happily expressed in the accompanying landscape effect.—Mr. C. Earle's *Aventine Hill, Rome, from the Ponte Rotto* (41) is excellent in many qualities, but rather

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flat and chalky.—Another landscape next attracts us, being Mr. L. C. Livett's *Meadow near Henley* (61), a capital study of a sober effect upon water, meadow, and scattered elms. It is, however, defective in recalling the characteristics of nature; a piece of tapestry rather than the breadth and richness of a picture.—Mr. H. C. Herries has been eminently fortunate with *Beachy Head from the Shore near Eastbourne* (73). This is grandly treated and very true in colouring and atmospheric qualities.—Mr. Luxmoore's damsel choosing such a ribbon as might please her lover (81) is extremely pretty, in the better sense of that term, with some refined feeling for grey tints; yet it needs solidity and something of richness as well as thoroughly good drawing; excellence in the latter respect is seemingly challenged by the crispness of the execution.

Of Mr. S. Solomon's three pictures we shall notice first that which is the most complete, being No. 88, *A Saint of the Eastern Church*: a half-length of a crowned youth holding a flowering branch, and habited in gorgeous Byzantine vestments, and having the long, over-refined face and almond-shaped eyes, to which the artist has often applied his skill. There is a look of luxury about this work which is almost sensual, and is strangely at variance with the assumed monumental character of the ruling idea. If Byzantine art were so voluptuous as this illustration would suggest the face and expression would be apt to the title; as it is, we must accept it, with certain reservations, as a charming study of splendid robes and accessories, with a figure which is almost "sensational." It too obviously lacks manliness to satisfy us, even in respect to Art: yet it is very beautiful. *Sacramentum Amoris* (111), a nearly nude figure, does not approach the merit of the last.—Mr. H. S. Marks has several pictures here which show how admirably a figure-painter can deal with landscape. His *Seaford Cliff* (103) is a real picture, with fine broad colouring and rich lighting. For like excellencies see also *The Road over the Downs* (601), and *Cuckmere* (652).—Mr. H. Moore has rarely been happier in his many coast scenes than with *Thunder-Clouds—Evening* (104), a picture of vast masses of *cumuli* rising behind *strata* and through a brassy glare above a wilderness of hopeless-looking sea.—An architectural subject by Mr. Luxmoore is distinct enough from his above-named work to come under another category. This is *Study—In the Earl of Leicester's Hospital, Warwick* (158),—a fine little picture of its kind, rich in colour and deep in tone, ably rendering a sombre, grave old chamber, with a Jacobian cabinet standing against the wall among shadows which seem coeval to it: see also another capital study, *The China Shelf* (291), by the same.—Miss J. Russell's picture (175) of an old subject, which is now painted rarely enough to seem almost new, represents the Vicar of Wakefield's wife and daughters, rehabilitated in their once-abandoned finery. This is a cleverly-treated picture, but rather French in character and execution. How little apt to the subject is this sort of treatment the reader may guess. He must, however, allow credit to the artist for a certain good quality of spirit and much technical dexterity which appears in her picture. The mother's is the best of the three figures. Strange that the artist should have spent more pains in painting the dress of this figure than on any of the faces. The pattern of the dress is not "accounted for" on its folds; it is out of drawing.

A group of capital, highly-refined landscapes, which is a little mannered withal, proceeds from the hands of Mr. J. C. Moore. Of this group the first to catch our eye is No. 184, *An Autumn Morning on the Pincio*—a capital portrait of the bald, sunny boulevard of Rome, the atmosphere of which is admirably rendered. Next is *The Yellow Tiber* (326)—very broad, rich and grave study of a twilight effect on the trench-like river-bed. *Chiswick* (482) is not quite faithful in detail of the old river-side church and little bay, with red brick houses, sheds, and sparse trees, but it is, nevertheless, a charming picture: see also and admire *Riverside Buildings* (658) and *A December Morning on the Campagna* (667). Mr. Moore's utter neglect of local and peculiar colour gives to his works more

of the look of mannerism than they deserve.—Widely removed in respect to heed for local colour are the drawings of Mr. A. Ditchfield: see *The Thames at Sonning* (191)—a sleepy-looking effect on the Thames. Here are much beauty expressed and technical skill employed.—*La Fileuse* (207) is the ambitious work of Mr. Calderon—a cleverly-wrought fresco-like picture of a girl reclining backwards, day-dreaming, and holding a distaff. The face is pathetic, the whole dashingly put together, and only to students obviously in error in drawing: see the weak foreshortening throughout, and the absurd treatment of the stripes on the petticoat.—Mr. G. Pope's *Hours of Leisure* (232)—some monks resting in their garden-work; one plays on a flageolet to his companion. The faces of this pair are the better portions of a very good picture, the comparatively novel subject of which is by no means its strongest merit.—Miss P. Taylor's *Shells* (250), Mr. Whiteford's *Autumn Fruit* (443), Mr. D. Williamson's *Apple and Faded Leaves* (298), and *Leaves of Wild Cherry Tree* (300), are capital works of their order, rarely diverse in their colouring, and strangely remote from each other. The richness of the last, and the modes of handling the hard surface and intense and brilliant colour of the first, and its careful modelling, are enjoyable by most. Artists will appreciate the pictorial qualities of the second, and revel in the broad, rarely powerful, painting and sound knowledge which are evinced in the pair of works by the last-named artist. These we command to the student.

Mr. E. J. Poynter contributes many excellent studies of a character which is as much scientific as artistic.—*The Dogana, and Island of St. Giorgio, Venice* (261), is a brilliant and vigorous drawing of this class.—*Boats at the Dogana, Venice* (554) has a novel effect for the subject.—*Moonlight on the Grand Canal, Venice* (570) less antipathetic than the above-named, has the element of grandeur latent in it.—The study of the gold mosaics in the central dome of St. Mark's (585) is architectural drawing at perfection.—The portrait of a lady (317), as a picture, we do not applaud, the flesh is grimy and opaque, characteristics which may be needlessly faithful in a picture; as a portrait it concerns few.—Mr. Roget's capital landscapes are seen at their best in *Sand and Chalk—Swanage Bay* (289), a fine sweeping panorama of those elements, which, except as to the painty sky, is most praiseworthy in drawing, colouring, and rendering of air.—*Durleston Head—Dorset* (313) is broad, artistic, and, in its kind, inexhaustible of interest and expression: a bay with fallen rocks in the sober grey sea, and light falling on the cliff and hill-tops above them. See also, *Swansea* (662).

Among the few humorous pictures here,—it is wonderful how rare such works are in this country, which is supposed, by some, to be the home of humour,—is Mr. B. Riviere's illustration of fox-life, *A Game of Fox and Geese* (360), Reynard sleeping "with one eye open," on a green, his victims approaching; here, notwithstanding some thinness of execution, are several valuable technical qualities.—The student will not overlook Mr. C. Richardson's *Sunrise—Tynemouth* (370), Mr. T. White's *Sketch of Vesuvius during the late Eruption* (405), Mr. P. Marshall's well-lighted study from nature, *Chingford Mill* (454), Mr. Oakes' *Town and Castle of Flint* (517), and his *Valley Mill, Newlands* (526).—Madame Bodichon's *Aloes* (565) is admirable, but so truly repeats in most of its good qualities scores of other pictures by the same as to justify the assertion that the artist can paint nothing but aloes. We have had enough of them.—Also Mr. Redgrave's rich landscape sketch, styled "*Lonesome Valley*" (525).—Miss Seddon's *Yew Wood* (628) is poetic.—The rare qualities of Mr. Inchbold's sketches, *Tell's Valley* (502), "*In Memoriam*" (520), and the sunny *Town Hall, Valentia* (527), need only attention to be appreciated.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.

THE election of two Associates of the Royal Academy, which was made on Saturday evening last, will give pleasure to all who desire the incorporation with the institution of the more refined and

higher-aiming of our painters. The first balloting was in favour of Mr. George Mason, who received, we understand, the extraordinary number of forty favourable votes. The second choice fell upon Mr. E. J. Poynter. It would have been difficult to have better results than these to the first elections in the new quarters of the Academy.

Mr. Mason has in hand, besides other pictures which may reach the Royal Academy Exhibition, two works, one of which represents a rustic party taking refuge beneath a great tree while a sudden hailstorm pours its fury on woods and pastures. The party comprises a man, woman, and young girl: the first is placed close to the tree, whilst the third, having her bonnet off, shakes hailstones from the tangled masses of her hair. In the middle of the picture, for the above group is placed slightly to its left, is another young traveller, who is pursued by the wind, drenched in the torrent, and buffets the former as well as tossed garments will permit. The second of Mr. Mason's pictures represents evening on a moor, with a large single-arched bridge, carrying a road across a stream. On the road are travellers, one leading a horse in the shafts of a cart. Women and children accompany this group. The bright light of the glowing sky is reflected in water on one side of the bridge. A dog drinks as he passes on the further side of the stream.

The Meeting of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours, which was held on the evening of the 1st instant, for the election of Members, was, like the one before, fruitless, although eighteen candidates presented their works. As the Institute is in a state of transition, after including several merely flashy artists and "popular favourites," to that state which better becomes a professional society, it is undoubtedly wise not to elect members at all rather than introduce more of the objectionable element. No artistic association has so markedly improved in the quality of its exhibition and the honourableness of its distinctions as this Institute; a false step, however, will upset the scheme of advancement, and deter desirable artists from becoming members. Of course there are enough good painters in water-colours to amply supply the Institute with new members; it seems, however, that the older Society of Painters in Water Colours generally commands the better order of candidates, to the exclusion of the junior body.

Pictures for the spring Exhibition of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours will be received on the 6th of April next. The private view will take place on the 17th of that month, and the public opening be made on the 19th of the same.

Mr. Watts has in hand, and probably intends to send to the Royal Academy Exhibition of this year, the following, if not more, pictures. The great symbolical composition which has been seen by some in this artist's studio, and was destined to accompany those other pictures we have now to describe, and which was intended for a cemetery chapel, will not, we fear, be completed in time for exhibiting ere it goes to its destination. The other pictures are: 1. Diana and Endymion, the goddess in a halo of her own light stooping in a flood of cloud-like draperies to kiss the sleeping shepherd, whose form her soft radiance illuminates. 2. A single figure, larger than life, of Hyperion sitting on clouds just ere the sun breaks forth upon the night; he is looking upwards grandly, and has a dart in his hand. 3. Una and the Red Cross Knight, a design similar to that which has been familiar to the painter's friends during several past years. The pair, he on his war steed, she on her lowly ass, are riding with sweet gravity, sobriety and grace. The faces are highly chastened and refined. The notion of the colouring, which is a tender, fine grey, warm and silvery withal, as it should be, in keeping with the chaste and chivalrous ideality of the subject. 4. A portrait of a lady, which is more than worthy of the painter.

We give the following note from Mr. Svoboda; though the "error" to which he alludes is not, we think, to be found in our pages:—

"52, Welbeck Street, Feb. 4, 1869.

"As the author of the new work on 'The Seven

Churches of Asia,' illustrated with photographs, and published by Messrs. Sampson, Low & Co., will you allow me to correct an error which appeared in your notice in the *Athenæum* of the 16th ult., where Mr. Tristram is mentioned as the author of the history, and myself as the artist who took the views. I beg now to state that, excepting the very appropriate and enlightened introduction of Mr. Tristram, the whole and entire work is of my own composition. The itinerary as well as the historical part (as is clearly seen on the title-page of the work), which, as you justly observe in your notice, has taken me a great deal of time and trouble in researches and study, combined with my own explorations and experience of that classical country, I have, with my feeble efforts, written in the English language. I am, &c.

"A. SVOBODA."

Mr. Telbin is painting scenes at Her Majesty's Theatre, in preparation for the coming season.

Some rare and interesting books have lately been presented to the library of the Institute of British Architects, one of which is the 'Civitates Orbis Terrarum' (first edition), 1572; the Grenville Collection, British Museum, has another copy, but the book is generally rare. The impressions of the plates, chiefly views of the principal cities in Europe, are brilliant, followed by a descriptive text.

Loitering in the North Court of the South Kensington Museum the other day, we came upon a copy in electrotype of a certain two-handled cup which Flaxman designed for George the Fourth, when Prince Regent. This is in one of the cases that stand near the south-east angle of the court. The cup is composed of gold and silver halves, united in the middle vertically and through the handles, and bears upon its respective halves appropriate subjects illustrative of the golden and silver ages. Apart from the barbarism of uniting two metals in this fashion upon one object, nothing could be more admirable in design and fitness as a drinking vessel than this simple, almost Etruscan, ovoid cup. Its contours are so pure that a Greek artist might have produced them as a result of centuries of aesthetic training on the part of his people, and exquisite taste of his own. Now here is a perfect model, not better than hundreds which are afforded by the wondrous store of vessels in the Etruscan Room at the British Museum, but undoubtedly modern. Nevertheless, it seems that we are in want of good models for drinking-cups, state cups, challenge cups and vases, to be won as prizes for shooting, rowing, riding, swimming, sailing, and what not else?

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER HALL.—Conductor, Mr. COSTA.—FRIDAY NEXT, February 19, Handel's RAMSON.—SUBSCRIPTION CONCERT.—Principal Vocalists: Madlle. Liebhart, Madame Sainton-Dolby, Mr. Vernon Righy, Mr. Carter, Mr. Winstone, and Mr. Lewis Thomas. Trumpet Obligato, Mr. Harper. Band and Chorus of 700 Performers. Commence at Half-past Seven.—Tickets, 3s., 2s.; and Stalls, 10s. 6d. each, at 6, Exeter Hall.

CONCERTS.—It is long since the subscribers to the Sacred Harmonic Society have had a programme so "rich and rare" as that of Friday last. It was rich indeed to extravagance. Either of the two parts would have been amply sufficient for one evening's entertainment. The concert was opened by the imposing overture to Handel's "Occasional Oratorio," an interesting example of musicianlike skill, although like all the orchestral preludes of the time, it has no relation to the work it was intended to introduce, and has therefore no special meaning. The first part comprised a hymn and two psalms, which exhibit the versatility of Mendelssohn in a striking light. It is scarcely possible for music to have a more Catholic colouring than the hymn "Lauda Sion," which the author, while actually engaged upon his masterpiece, "Elijah," wrote to order for a special festival of the Church with which he had the least personal sympathy. In effective contrast to the sumptuousness of this song of praise, is the sustained grandeur of the 114th Psalm, the elaborate eight-part writing of which is remarkable for seeming simplicity and

freedom. "As the hart pants"—the 42nd Psalm—is better known than "When Israel out of Egypt came," and being much less difficult it was far better sung. Indeed, in this alone of the works already mentioned was the choir still commendable. Spohr's "Last Judgment," which filled the second part of the overgrown concert, was as welcome for its novelty as Mendelssohn's "Praise Jehovah," and its execution was less open to reproach. Spohr's sacred music soon cloyed the palate, but, heard occasionally, it commands admiration for the skill with which it is put together. None of the works performed at this concert make great demands on solo singers, but all that there was to do was satisfactorily done by Madame Sherrington, Madame Dolby, Mr. Cummings and Mr. Thomas. "It is an ill wind that blows nobody good," and the loss of Mr. Sims Reeves seems to have stimulated the Sacred Harmonic Society into activity without precedent. "Samson" is announced for next Friday, the 12th.

Schumann, the spoilt child of the Crystal Palace musical directors, was prominently represented on Saturday last, by his Symphony in B flat, the earliest of the four. It is clearer and brighter than most of the author's works, and as full of earnest intention as any. But yet it evidently did not touch any hearers outside the small circle of Schumann's exclusive worshippers. On the other hand, the natural, unconstrained, untormented beauty of Dr. Sterndale Bennett's F minor concerto appealed with success to every ear. The Barcarolle, about which Schumann himself wrote so tenderly, must always most delight a general audience, but the vigour of the first and last movements is at least as remarkable as the grace of the second. Madame Arabella Goddard played the concerto as though she loved it. She does well to bring forward the works of her gifted countrymen; they remind us of what Dr. Bennett did thirty years ago—of what he might yet do. Full amends were made to Cherubini, who has been somewhat neglected at the Crystal Palace, by a splendid performance of his fine overture to "Faniska." The singers were Madlle. Carola and Madlle. Drasdil, whose efforts merit no further mention. On the preceding Saturday the feature of the concert was Handel's "Ode to St. Cecilia's Day," performed, for the first time in England, with Mozart's additional accompaniments, copied expressly from the autograph in the Berlin Library. We shall have something to say about these additions when the work is next repeated; for the present it is enough to state the general impression that the accompaniments are such as Handel himself would have written could his spirit have been commissioned in Mozart's time to perform such an office for his former self. The symphony of the day was Haydn's in E flat, No. 10 of the Salomon set.

The Saturday Popular Concerts, as the afternoon performances are now for the first time called, have been recommenced for the season. At the first Madame Arabella Goddard was the pianiste, the programme on this occasion having no novelty in it; and at the second Madame Schumann made her first appearance this year. She chose for her solo Chopin's Scherzo in B flat minor, and took part in her husband's Quintet, perhaps the finest example of his labours in chamber-music. The best thing in the brief concert—the afternoon programmes are shorter than those of the evening—was Herr Joachim's playing of Tartin's notorious "Trillo del Diavolo," a much over-praised piece of display. The two ladies named above have also taken part in the corresponding Monday Concerts. At the former Madame Goddard renewed the attractiveness of the famous "Plus Ultra," the most elaborate and masterly of all Dussek's Sonatas,—and at the latter Madame Schumann introduced the first of the clever and original Nolettes, the eight solos in which Robert Schumann's fantastic and unequal genius is seen at its brightest. She also played with immense fire Schubert's Impromptu in F minor. At this concert a Sonata, by Marcello—the Venetian nobleman whose settings of the Psalms were once widely known as well as generally praised—was brought to light. Trifling in itself, it was yet made acceptable by the rich tones of Signor Piatti's violon-

cello. Better ballad-singing than that of Miss Edith Wynne, at the same concert, has not been heard for years.

The second experiment made by Mr. Martin of lowering the pitch by an entire semitone, was far more satisfactory *quoad hoc* than the first. There was no lack, so far as we could trust our own sensations, of the "brilliance," the loss of which has been prophesied, the various instruments harmonized well, and except that the organist, shirking the difficulties of certain transpositions, sometimes omitted the organ part, the dreaded lowering of the pitch had no perceptible effect on the performance. This should be distinctly understood, for the rendering of "Judas Maccabeus" was extremely imperfect, and the faults of the performance may possibly be attributed by unthinking persons to the lowering of the pitch. Bad as the performance was, it would probably have been worse if the high pitch had been maintained. At no imaginable pitch could it have been good. In comparison with the number of basses there were scarcely any contraltos, while the sopranos were out of all proportion to the sound they produced. To judge from the effect, we should imagine that not one in ten opened her mouth. When the trebles were divided, as in the five-part chorus "Tune your harps," the female voices could scarcely be heard at all. Whenever a high A had to be sung, the few trebles who sang became still fewer, and as this note was literally A flat at the ordinary English pitch, we are justified in concluding that the performance would have been still worse had the diapason not been lowered. Again, Miss Arabella Smyth, who sang several of the soprano solos passably well, made more than one blunder in the duet, "We never will bow down," and it was only the steadiness of her partner, Miss Palmer, that saved her credit with the audience. Mr. Leigh Wilson, again, was most unsatisfactory in the great tenorsong, "Sound an alarm." It is fortunate that we can give some encouragement to Mr. Lander, "a new bass," who was introduced with too much of the "puff preliminary." He has a fine voice, and has learnt how to use it. We shall be able to say more about him after the performance of "Elijah," announced for the 17th.

ST. JAMES'S.—Stage traditions are among the most inflexible of things. Incidents once probable are repeated upon the stage long after their probability, or even their possibility, has departed; satire is preserved after its sting has been drawn, and caricature of speech and manners is continued when the modes of life in which it originated have passed away and been forgotten. One of the commonest of incidents in a modern melo-drama is an event with difficulty conceivable in real life—the theft of a child. In Greece, with a large sea-board and with inhabitants a large portion of whom have in all ages been corsairs, the loss of a family, seized and sold into slavery, was a conceivable calamity. Hence the discovery that a slave was a "long-lost child" was a common conclusion to a Greek comedy. But the frequency with which this device is employed in England speaks little for the ingenuity of our dramatists or for the intelligence of our audiences. In "Red Hands," produced at the St. James's Theatre on Saturday last, one more is added to the long list of plays founded upon the adventures of stolen children. Mr. Gilbert Beckett is the author of the piece, which is in a prologue and three acts. A drama adhering more slavishly to precedent or possessing fewer claims to literary merit is seldom produced. Actions and characters are all the stereotyped property of writers of melo-drama, and the only attribute the work can fairly claim as its own is its incomprehensibility. A girl, who afterwards becomes the heroine, is stolen by a squire, who is a distant relative, and knows her to be entitled to a large fortune. What, at first, he purposed to do with her is not much plainer to the audience than the reason why immediately after her abduction her mother is found guilty of a murder which she has not committed. When we next see the heroine she is in Australia, has arrived at womanhood, and has provided herself with a lover. But the squire, herself-appointed guardian, desires to marry her, and determines to take her back to England out of the way of his

rival. Before this time Walter Hart party never with the unavoidable He thrusts a river, dangerous rapids, but at her, but who cannot tracked, in the last a command, as of 50,000 to trust gives way epic. The mother herself to Leah, for humiliating union of as all this place, it is in sation's Many yet over the head of one which His improbability by purvey respects, motives equate to followed over, course of gratuity audience mother lar moy choose taste, of an unrented, of aristocrat was in approved portion scene p which for to—

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rival. Before he can do this she is again stolen, this time by her step-father. This ruffian, one Walter Harman, learns that on her death her property reverts to him. He endeavours accordingly, with the aid of an associate, rejoicing in the unavoidable name of Black Hulks, to murder her. He thrusts her adrift in a boat, without oars, upon a river, which a little below hurried over some dangerous falls. The boat is whirled over the rapids, but the heroine seizes upon a jutting piece of rock, and so is saved. Her step-father fires at her, but does not disable her; and her mother, who cannot render her any assistance, goes distracted, in due fashion, upon the river bank. In the last act, the marriage between the squire and his wife is at hand; but Harman appears, and demands, as the price of secrecy, the moderate sum of 50,000. This unpleasant adversary is induced to trust himself upon a rotten staircase, which gives way beneath him, and sends him over a precipice. The wedding festivities are resumed; but the mother who, footsore and weary, has dragged herself to the churchyard, after a fashion recalling Leah, forbids the marriage. With the ultimate humiliation of the wicked squire, and with the union of mother and child, the drama ends. Poor as all this is, and it could scarcely be more commonplace, it has not the merit of novelty. Its "sensation" scenes, like its characters, are old-fashioned. Many years ago, the incident of a girl being whirled over the rapids, was represented upon the boards of one of the minor theatres. The manner in which Harman meets his death is too absurd and improbable not to have been used once and again by purveyors of this class of literature. In other respects, the play was equally poor. Where motives were exhibited they were always inadequate to account for the deeds by which they were followed. Much of the action of the play, moreover, could only be understood by aid of a series of gratuitous assumptions upon the part of the audience. Miss Rushton played Rachel Harman, mother of the stolen child. This is one of those *larmoyante* parts which actresses misguidedly choose. Miss Marston enacted the heroine with taste. Mr. Coghlan, as Harman, made the most of an ungrateful part. Mr. Gaston Murray presented, in customary form, the accepted stage type of aristocratic villainy. The reception of the drama was in the main favourable, though signs of disapproval were occasionally heard. A large proportion of the applause was bestowed upon the scene-painter.—A new *ballet*, entitled 'Arda,' in which Mdlle. La Ferté re-appears, is announced for to-night (Saturday).

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.

Mrs. Howard Paul will shortly play Lady Macbeth at Drury Lane Theatre, and will double the part with Hecate.

Miss Lydia Foote has accepted an engagement at the Globe Theatre, commencing from Easter.

Mrs. Charles Barnard, a lady whose pseudonym of "Claribel," has appeared on the title-pages of many songs, and on many programmes, died on Monday after a short illness. This is not the moment to speak of her compositions.

Miss Annie Collinson, a young actress of some promise as a *soubrette danseuse*, is dead. She played at the St. James's, and subsequently at the New Royalty Theatre.

The thirteenth banquet of the Dramatic, Equestrian and Musical Sick Fund is fixed for Wednesday next. Lieut.-Col. Addison in the chair. Ladies are admitted to the dinner, which is followed by a ball.

A correspondence in the *Times* concerning the originality of 'School,' proves Mr. Robertson to have borrowed a small portion of his plot from 'Aschenbrödel,' by Benedix, a play mentioned in the *Athenæum* as bearing some resemblance to Mr. Robertson's comedy. Mr. Robertson's indebtedness to the German author is not great, but such as it is ought to have been acknowledged, and should not have been left to be detected by the ingenuity of critics or the recollections of those who had seen the earlier work. Whence comes the modern dramatist's strange reluctance to be per-

fectedly candid concerning the sources from which his plot is drawn?

All who read the Lord Chamberlain's recent circular to the managers of theatres may not know whence his power as licenser of plays is obtained. By custom, the Lord Chamberlain has for long period had the power of prohibiting plays "offensive to public morals or obnoxious to public policy." But until 1737 his jurisdiction had never been declared or defined by positive law. On Friday, the 28th of May, 1737, a bill was brought into the House of Commons to explain and amend so much of an Act made in the twelfth year of the reign of Queen Anne, entitled, "An Act for reducing the laws relating to Rogues, Vagabonds, Sturdy Beggars, and Vagrants, into one Act of Parliament; and for the more effectual punishing such Rogues, Vagabonds, Sturdy Beggars, and Vagrants, and sending them whither they ought to be sent, as relates to Common Players of Interludes." This Act, which was intended to protect Sir R. Walpole from the satire of Fielding, though it met with great opposition, was hurried through both Houses, and received the royal assent on the 21st of June following. Lord Chesterfield's speech in opposition is one of his happiest efforts. He stigmatized the measure as an attack upon property. "Wit, my lords," he said, with grave and polished irony, "is a sort of property. It is the property of those that have it, and too often the only property they have to depend on. It is indeed but a precarious dependence. Thank God! we, my lords, have a dependence of another kind; we have a much less precarious support, and therefore cannot feel the inconveniences of the bill now before us; but it is our duty to encourage wit, whosever's property it may be. . . . I must own I cannot easily agree to the laying of a tax upon wit, but by this bill it is to be heavily taxed—it is to be excised; for if this bill passes, it cannot be retailed in a proper way without a permit; and the Lord Chamberlain is to have the honour of being chief gauger, supervisor, commissioner, judge and jury." See 'Life of Fielding,' by F. Lawrence, and 'Lord Chesterfield's Works,' edited by Lord Mahon.

'The Home Wreck,' a new drama, in rehearsal at the Surrey Theatre, is by the late Mr. J. Sterling Coyne. This play, the only posthumous work of Mr. Coyne, was not quite complete at the time of his death, and has received from his son, Mr. Denis Coyne, the necessary additions.

A visit paid by Dr. Sterndale Bennett to Shefford, his native town, has been made the occasion for a graceful and appropriate compliment. He was invited by an amateur society to a concert in which his own compositions—comprising 'The Woman of Samaria,' in F minor Concerto, and the 'Naiades' overture—were alone performed. There is a touch of German sentiment about this which was scarcely to be expected in the home of hardware.

Mr. Halle still perseveres in his successful search after novelty. At his last Manchester meeting he introduced an *Overture Solennelle* in E flat by Ries, and himself played, for the first time in Cotonopolis, Hummel's Concerto in A flat. The Monday Popular quartet, including MM. Joachim and Piatti, assisted by Madame Schumann and Mr. Sims Reeves, have also recently performed at a thoroughly classical concert in the same music-loving city.

From Dublin we hear of two unknown cantatas being lately brought to public hearing. One is a new sacred cantata, entitled 'God is love,' by Mrs. Joseph Robinson; the other, 'Myra,' by Mr. John Dunne, had already been given, some two years since, in the Exhibition building.

A Mr. Gilmore, of Boston, is going to give a concert, in June, which will put all European getters-up of monster concerts to the blush. The orchestra is to consist of 1,000 performers, and the chorus of 10,000 singers. These figures prepare one for the further announcement that the choir will be "supported" by a battery of cannon. To parody Rossini's account of 'Suoni la tromba,' we may say that it will not be necessary to go to Boston—the concert will be audible in London.

At the fifth Symphony Concert in Boston, U.S.,

the first movement of Beethoven's Violin Concerto was played by a lady, Madame Camilla Urso! It is said by a trustworthy critic that extreme delicacy was the only fault in her performance. Late arrivals caused so much annoyance at the concert in question, that it was resolved to keep the doors closed in future during the performance of the first piece. So that a simultaneous move in the same direction is being made on both sides of the Atlantic. The best plan is that adopted at the Paris Conservatoire of admitting late-comers only in the intervals between works or their various movements.

A dramatic version of 'Enoch Arden' is the latest novelty at Salt Lake City.

New York does not keep the lead in theatricals that might be expected from its size and importance. More new plays were produced during the past year both in Boston and in Chicago than in New York.

Rossini's *petite messe*, known by the name of the Count Pillet-Will, at whose house it was first given, has been bought by M. Strakosch, who intends to have it performed simultaneously in the chief cities of Europe. We are at a loss to conceive what purpose is to be served by the carrying out of this original idea.

'Don Juan,' one of M. Carvalho's restorations, has been revived by his successor at the Théâtre Lyrique; but Mozart's opera is now indifferently supported.—Mdle. Orgeni has appeared in 'La Traviata'; but her nervousness was so great on Tuesday, the night of her *début*, that she was unable to do herself justice.

No new pieces have been produced in Paris during the past week. The only novelty is 'Marie-Jeanne,' a five-act drama, by MM. D'Ennery and Maillart, revived at the Prince Impérial. This drama is scarcely likely long to remain in favour. It is an exceedingly lachrymose production, which owes the success it first obtained at the Porte St-Martin to the splendid acting of Madame Dorval. The introductory portion of its plot furnished the opening scenes of 'Janet Pride.'

It is said that the Pope has commissioned the Abbé Liszt to prepare a scheme for rescuing sacred music from the state of degradation into which it has fallen in Italy. It seems that Pius the Ninth would like to be the Pius the Fourth of the nineteenth century. We fear that Liszt will not prove to be its Palestrina.

Madame Lucca, whose sudden death was vaguely rumoured some weeks ago, is reported to be fast recovering. She is soon to re-appear at the Berlin Opera.

The death is announced at St. Petersburg of Alexander Dargomirsky, a native composer, known by the operas 'Russalka' and 'Esmeralda.' He has also left an incomplete 'Don Juan,' founded, like 'Russalka,' on a dramatic sketch by Pushkin—the "Russian Byron." He was buried in the cemetery of the Newsky Kloster, near the grave of Glinka; and at the funeral service, celebrated in the St. Simeon Church, the Imperial choir sang impressive selections from Borodiansky's works. Even in Russia a composer is lowered into the tomb to the strains of national music. Is this always the case in England?

MISCELLANEA

Lord Lyndhurst.—In the last number of the *Athenæum*, Lord Campbell's assertion, that Lord Lyndhurst was ashamed of his father having been a painter, is well met by the remark that Lord Lyndhurst, as Chancellor, continued to live in the very house which his father had occupied throughout his artistic career. But a still stronger disproof of Lord Campbell's story was afforded by the fact of Lord Lyndhurst having sent to the International Exhibition of 1862, the large and very interesting picture, representing Copley, the artist, and his father in a family group, the youngest member of which is a little child, who grew up to be Lord Chancellor of England.

J. D.

Masonic Archaeological Institute.—On Friday evening, Jan. 29th, a meeting was held at Freemasons' Hall, Mr. James Glaisher in the chair.—The inaugural address was delivered by Mr. Hyde

Clarke, Treasurer, who pointed out as subjects for investigation the history of Freemasonry in the last century and Middle Ages, its relations to secret societies and guilds and associations of working men, the possible influence of Gnosticism and the ancient mysteries on the symbolism of Masonry, and its place in the history of the philosophy of the human mind. He referred to the illustrations given by Mr. Hepworth Dixon, of the use of secret signs among the American Indians.—Mr. Grissell gave a like example from personal communication with a Dervish in Constantinople.—Mr. C. H. Gregory and Mr. Spiers referred to the researches of Prof. Rawlinson and others at Oxford, among the masonic records in the Ashmole Museum.

combe as the Name of a Hill.—Further facts may be given illustrative of the use of Combe as the name of a hill. When words fall into disuse in daily life, but are still retained as the names of localities, they lose their significance, and lapse into mere names, and nothing more. For instance, children hear their fathers refer to a distant tract of country toward a certain quarter as "the combe." The fathers may attach to the word its proper meaning, but it having passed out of ordinary use the children know only that the "combe" is the "combe," but whether it means the hollow, or the adjacent hills, or both together, they cannot tell. An instance of an inversion in the application of a term, analogous to that in Cumberland, occurred in Cornwall. A Cornishman, named Scawen, who—according to Prof. Max Müller, whom I quote—wrote, about 200 years ago, in correcting the heraldic errors of his countrymen, and especially that of representing "Ross" as if it meant a "rose," states that "Ross in Cornish means a vale or valley." Now, it need hardly be said that "ross" really means "a head" "a promontory." Thus, while we have in Cumberland the old Celtic word for "a hollow" used to designate a mountain, we find there were Cornishmen who referred the old word for "a head" to the subjacent valley. But this word is interesting on another account, in connexion with the paper of the Astronomer Royal. This also points to the east as the native sea of the Celt. I hold it to be unquestionably identical with the Hebrew *rosh*, Arabic *ras*, a word which, like our own "head," is used in many senses, and amongst them, like it, in that of a promontory. As another instance in point, I think I may adduce "Combe Hill," near Croydon, situate between Addiscombe on the north-west and Addington on the south-east. This combe has within its hollow Combe House and Combe Farm, and evidently gave its own name to the hill which forms its southern side. W. B.

Local Words.—Rarely, or ever, are the following Dumfries-shire words heard in Renfrewshire, nor are they found in "Burns": *pingle*, *pan*; *liggat*, gate; *lunki*, hole in the wall; *lauchter*, eggs under a sitting hen; *caum*, slate-pen; *kinraig*, tippet; *reeve*, sheepfold; *gellic*, pinch or lever; *girlings*, nestlings; *crock*, an old ewe; *gill* (*g hard*), leech; *tammock*, knoll; *nap*, dish; *peust*, well to do; *bask*, dry; *fremet*, not blood-related; *peef*, long-winded, tedious; *douth*, shady; to *stell*, to stand; *chan*, sprout; *jib*, to overmilk; *trone*, to play the truant; *stole*, fill; *gairy*, precipice; *yim*, small quantity; *widdershins*, to go the wrong way, or turn against the sun (which is considered unlucky), &c. On the other hand, some Renfrewshire words could be given quite unknown further south. Most of the words you noticed in your review of the Cleveland dialect I have heard here.

J. S.
Childer.—The peasantry of the south-east of Ireland invariably use this form in place of "children," giving it, however, a guttural sound—*childher*. Many Saxon words are in use in co. Kilkenny, as "schat," for land ploughed in broad sets (each set being called a "schat"); "swarth," for the row of grass or corn after the scythe, &c.

JAMES GROVES.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—E. W.—A. H.—W. H. F.—G. G. J.—E. D. D.—H. P. M.—S. M.—B. R.—S. S.—J. H.—D. W. D.—received.

Erratum.—In our notice of Mr. Woolner's statue of Sir Bartle Frere, last week, the reader will please supply the words *Governor of Bombay*, after "the late."

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Creditors assuming the lives of debtors will appreciate this feature as one greatly protective of their interests, and it will likewise command itself to bankers, capitalists, and others who are in the habit of making advances collaterally secured by Life Policies, as they can at any time learn, by mere inspection, the exact amount, either immediate or reversionary, of a Policy of this description.

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